

SOVIETS CAPTURE 6 BIG TOWNS

Pay Plenty or We Don't Produce, It Said:-- Then Anaconda Sold U.S. Defective Wiring

By ART SHIELDS

Indifference to war production, and profiteering, lies behind the arrest of five officers of the Anaconda Cable & Wire Co. on fraud charges this week.

Anaconda has the typical business-as-usual attitude shown towards the war by the National Association of Manufacturers, of which it is a part.

The present indictment is the second prosecution of the cable company by the federal government within the last four months.

INDICTED FOUR MONTHS AGO

Four months ago the government indicted Anaconda Wire & Cable Co. and eight other firms on a charge of price fixing of war materials.

By these criminal practices the companies netted profits of 35 to 70 per cent on \$55,000,000 war sales, said Attorney General Biddle.

Now the charge is more serious. Five Anaconda officials are arrested on a charge of furnishing defective wiring

to the Army Signal Corps, that endangers soldiers' lives. They are accused of using trickery to fool the United States Government, as well as the Soviet Union, which first detected the shoddy stuff.

SOLDIERS ENDANGERED

Biddle correctly called this action--

"... one of the most reprehensible cases of defrauding the government and endangering the lives of American soldiers and sailors ever to come to the attention of the Department of Justice."

Anaconda showed its indifference to war production needs when it took part in a "sit down strike" of copper companies early in the war.

Anaconda and other big copper companies had held down production. They said they couldn't produce more at the Government's price of 12 cents a pound. The CIO union, whose members work the mines, said the company could. The union furnished a comprehensive production plan for

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Anaconda's Stogie



SEN. WHEELER

Big Allied Barrage Opens Up in Tunisia

LONDON, Dec. 23 (UP).—Axis big guns have unlimbered against Allied lines in Tunisia and patrols of both sides are sparring vigorously in the swelling battle for the Sicilian straits in which British air and sea forces have sunk or crippled 11 of the enemy's African convoy ships, it was announced tonight.

Official reports revealed the Allies now command virtually the length and breadth of the Mediterranean except the Sicilian narrows, and even there, the Admiralty announced, a big supply convoy recently passed to Malta hardly molested by Axis planes and U-boats.

Meanwhile, Cairo reports said that advance units of the British Eighth Army, urged by their commander to "keep 'em on the run," were beyond Sirte and nearly half way to Tripoli from El Agheila tonight as the fleeing Afrika Korps kept well out in front by means of wholesale mine-sowing.

The Allied-controlled Morocco Radio, heard by the United Press in London, said the British vanguard was approaching Buerat, 54 miles west of Sirte, while the bulk of the Afrika Korps had passed Misurata, 120 miles east of Tripoli, leaving the rather strong local Italian garrison to put up a defense.

Offensive Rolls West and South

MOSCOW, Thursday, Dec. 24 (UP).—Soviet forces drove ahead 12 to 18 miles, captured six big towns and boosted German casualties to 79,600 yesterday on the Middle Don Front, where dispatches said they had scored a total break-through, thrusting into the Ukraine and harrying the Nazis in panicky retreat.

MOSCOW, Thursday, Dec. 24 (UP).—A special Soviet communique said today that the Red Army offensive on the Middle Don Front continues.

Soviet troops advanced between 12.4 and 18.6 miles yesterday. Six large populated places and two district centers were occupied during the advance.

MOSCOW, Dec. 23 (UP).—The Red Army has scored a total breakthrough west of the middle Don, thrusting back into the Ukraine—"Bread basket of Russia"—and harrying the Germans in panicky retreat which Nazi airmen are trying to check by bombing their own troops, the Soviets reported tonight.

Front dispatches said the Germans were "fleeing in utter panic" in some sectors of the blizzard-lashed plains, while Soviet tank columns fanned out south and southwest and Soviet infantry rapidly filled the gaps between the wedges.

PIERCE UKRAINE RIM

The eastern border of the Ukraine was pierced when a Red Army assault force seized Popovka, 140 miles east of Kharkov, and the offensive later carried into the rich agricultural province at several other points, the report said.

(The London Radio quoted Moscow reports that all the northern half of the big bend of the Don between the Rostov-Voronezh railroad and the upper arm of the river now is in Soviet hands.)

(The extremely reticent German High Command said merely that "heavy fighting on the central Don continues," and dealt only in brief generalities with other fighting in Russia.)

NAZIS BOMB OWN MEN

Pravda reported that German planes were bombing their own men in efforts to force them to stand and fight the Red Army, while the government organ Izvestia said that in at least one instance the Nazi commander of a vil-

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How Soviets Broke Through Middle Don

MOSCOW, Dec. 23 (IGN).—The story of how the Soviet High Command knew all about the honey-combed Nazi defenses in the Middle Don, and how the Red Army enveloped the town of Boguchar is told by Red Star's special correspondent, Capt. A. Mikhailov.

The Germans reached the central Don area last summer and spent all autumn fortifying their positions, planting mines. The heights were honeycombed with numerous firepoints with reinforced roofs. The defense zones were up to 15 kilometers deep. They consisted of two or three and sometimes four defense lines.

The Soviet command had all the information to this effect beforehand and considerable preparations were made for the offensive.

ARTILLERY HAVOC
An important role in the breach was played by the artillery which kept up its fire for a long time, shelling the German fortifications, demolishing anti-tank and anti-infantry obstacles, destroying fire points and mortar batteries.

When a rifle unit began to attack it was met with weak fire. The enemy retreated in panic. In the first three hours of the offensive the Soviet troops pierced the enemy defense over a stretch of a few dozen kilometers and effected a penetration which on some sectors was five to seven kilometers deep.

The enemy fought a stubborn rearguard action. Whereas in some directions the Soviet units had already broken through the second line of defense, on one sector the enemy attempted to stem the advancing troops by launching several furious counterattacks.

Striking formidable blows and penetrating the gaps between the support points, the Red Army men surprised the enemy by flank blows, blocking the support points and continuing to develop the success of their offensive.

CLOSE IN ON NAZIS
One rifle division was stopped by the enemy in front of the important support point of Derezhovka. Leaving two battalions to tie down the defenders from the front, the division commander directed his main forces to envelop Derezhovka from two directions.

The German interstices proved to

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CIO Wins 3-1 At Sperry Poll

A four-year drive to unionize the Sperry Gyroscope Company, one of the most important war plants in the East, was over today with a CIO union established as sole collective bargaining agent for the firm's 15,000 employees.

Local 450 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO won a 3 to 1 victory in a National Labor Relations Board poll there Tuesday.

Results were: UE, 5,564 votes; International Association of Machinists, AFL, 2,210; no union, 458. Joseph Dermody, international UE representative, was in charge of the CIO drive.

Employees in the firm's 10 plants in Brooklyn, Garden City, and Lake Success, L. I. are covered by the election.

CLIMAXES HARD FIGHT

The poll brings organization for the first time to parts of Long Island where industry is booming and there are few unions. It opens the way for rapid further expansion.

The election climaxes long years of hard struggle against a company nationally famous for its anti-labor policies.

Three successive company unions were established by management. Each had to be separately knocked down by labor's recourse to the National Labor Relations Board in two cases and to the courts in the third instance.

The U. E. lost an election at Sperry in a yes-no vote in 1939. Subsequently, the NLRB found Sperry guilty of unfair labor practices and ordered it to withdraw recognition from its company union, the Brotherhood of Scientific Instrument Workers.

WLB Takes Steps To Speed Decisions

By Adam Lapin

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—The National War Labor Board announced two important steps to speed action on demands of workers for wage increases and adjustments of grievances.

WLB regional offices were granted authority to make final decisions on all voluntary wage increase cases involving less than 100 workers.

More than two-thirds of all voluntary wage increase cases have been in this category, it was pointed out here, and consideration of all of them in Washington has swamped the Board with more cases than it could handle.

This move, effective at once, should ease the burden on the Board considerably.

The second step by WLB will take some time to put into operation.

Panels consisting of labor-management, management and public representatives will be set up in all major cities to hear all dispute cases involving workers and employers on the spot.

Regional panels decisions will be

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Brewster Corp. Rapped by WLB

(Daily Worker Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—About 18,000 workers in the Brewster Aeronautical Corporation in Long Island City, Newark, N. J., and Johnsville, Pa., today were granted wage increases and other concessions in the unanimous recommendations of a three-man war labor board panel.

Action by WLB on the demands of the United Automobile Workers was delayed for more than two months and this resulted in seriously impairing morale and production in the Brewster Aeronautical plants.

The three-man panel, consisting of Thomas C. Spates, industry member, Leo Benoit, labor member, and Aaron Horvitz, public member, unanimously condemned C. A. Van Dusen, president of Brewster Aeronautical, for his failure to cooperate with the union. The panel said:

"The complexity and highly controversial nature of these issues are due, in part, to factors beyond the control of either party, such as the impact of the War Emergency and a change of management at a critical period in the execution of union contract obligations and to

Green Denounces Nazi Atrocities

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (UP).—Speaking for the American Federation of Labor, President William Green today denounced "the Nazi savagery toward the Jews as a crime against man and God."

Green's statement was prompted by recent disclosure by United Nations officials of the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe.

"At this season of the year," he said, "it is particularly fitting that men and women everywhere who cherish the principles of religion and humanity should join in voicing their complete condemnation of such Satanic cruelty."

"We are resolved that those responsible for such acts of infamy shall pay the penalty for their criminality by the time this war is over."

Poletti Probes Vandalism

ALBANY, Dec. 23 (UP).—Governor Poletti ordered State police today to investigate complaints of destruction of Jewish religious property in Lake Placid and Saranac Lake.

Poletti, who said that other "similar outrages" have occurred in other parts of the State, added that the complaints were made by Rabbi Leopold Gutel, spiritual leader of the Jewish community of the Adirondack region congregations in Lake Placid, Saranac Lake and Tupper Lake.

The Lake Placid synagogue, Rabbi Gutel told Poletti, was desecrated a short time ago by vandals. "Great damage was done in the sanctuary of this synagogue," the Governor said. "The holy altar was violated. Religious articles were thrown on the floor and some were destroyed. Rabbi Gutel and others have likewise informed me that

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MacArthur Greets Workers on Xmas

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23 (UP).—Gen. Douglas MacArthur, United Nations commander in the Southwest Pacific, has sent a Christmas message on behalf of his fighting men to the war workers of America thanking them for the "sweats of war" that make our victory possible, the War Department disclosed today.

MacArthur's brief holiday greeting said:

"On this sacred day of Our Lord we, the soldiers on the firing line, give thanks to you soldiers on the production line for the sinews of war that make our victory possible. 'We are dedicating this Christmas Day to the defeat of our enemies—yes, this Christmas Day, the day after and every day thereafter until we establish peace on earth and good will to men.'"

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Allies Move on Buna Mission

GEN. MACARTHUR'S HEADQUARTERS, Australia, Dec. 23 (UP).—American and Australian troops have crossed the last two main water barriers protecting Japanese-held Buna Mission in New Guinea and are pushing ahead slowly, front dispatches reported tonight.

American forces, striking out of Buna village from the northwest, have made two crossings of Enrancia Creek which flows between the Mission and the village.

To the southeast, a joint American-Australian force, led by 13-ton American-built General Stuart tanks, were consolidating positions on the west bank of Sinnei Creek, which empties into the sea east of the Mission.

Thus, the Japanese were squeezed between Allied pincers now only a little over a mile apart.

RAID JAPANESE BASE

LONDON, Dec. 23 (UP).—British carrier-based planes, striking within 600 miles of Singapore, have raided Sabang, Japanese base of the northwestern tip of Sumatra, Dutch East Indies, the Admiralty announced today.

The communiqué said the planes touched off large explosions, followed by fires, blowing up a wharf known to have two gasoline tanks with a capacity of 4,000 tons. Other targets included a dry dock for ships up to 5,000 tons, an airport, quays and electric cranes.

The planes took off Sunday night from naval forces operating in the

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Yugoslavs Seize Mikhailovitch Aide

Violent and bloody fighting at three points in northwestern Yugoslavia is reported by "Free Yugoslavia" radio of the Yugoslav People's Liberation Army, according to Intercontinent News.

The fighting bulletins, covering Dec. 17, 18 and 19, reports offensives in the Sanski Most area of northwestern Bosnia, at Karlovac, a large town in western Croatia, and at Metlika, on the Dalmatian-Slovenian border.

In the Metlika fighting, the units of the 13th Croatian brigade of the People's Liberation Army took many prisoners, among them a Chetnik officer, Capt. Dobroslav Vasiljevic. This officer admitted, during the interrogation, that he had been sent by Mikhailovitch from Serbia to Slovenia to organize a detachment of the "Belaya Gvardia," or "White Guards."

In Croatia, the units of the People's Liberation Army were reported only six miles from the town of Karlovac.

Many prisoners and trophies have been taken including three Italian tanks. The villages of Lasin, Juavac and Sebec were liberated.

In northwestern Bosnia, some of the heaviest and bloodiest fighting is going on against the 714th German Infantry Division whose head-

Butter Hits \$1.25 in Detroit

Foes of Farm Subsidy Would Send Food Prices Skyrocketing

By Mac Gordon

Detroit housewives are paying \$1.25 for a pound of butter, the United Press reports. In some sections of New York City this vital food is unobtainable at any price.

These are the symptoms of the growing chaos and confusion in our price-control and rationing program. Under continual and heavy attack from obstructionists and profit-as-usual food speculators, the program faces a smash-up unless drastic action is taken by the people.

News comes from Washington that the government's farm subsidy program is to be scrapped, at the insistence of the misnamed congressional "farm bloc" and the reactionary Congressmen of the "economy bloc."

The farm subsidy program is a partial attempt to keep food prices to the consumer within bounds.

Subsidies are granted in cases where the price ceiling for the consumer and the price floor for the farmer are so close together that the small dealer cannot make sufficient profit to remain in business. They are needed in relatively few cases, since frequently the price spread is big enough to make them unnecessary.

Leon Henderson predicted, some months ago, that unless there were subsidies, a few billion dollars would be added to the nation's food bill. This money would go chiefly into the pockets of the food monopoly.

Subsidies have been a principal butt of attack by the "farm bloc" and the "economy" congressmen.

The former have opposed them "in principle," the latter on grounds of "economy."

The basic reasons for the opposition to subsidies are:

(1) They keep the small marginal farmer in production; big commercial farm interests want to drive these farmers out in order to strengthen their monopoly of agriculture;

(2) They keep the independent dealer and processor in business; monopoly food interests want to drive him out;

(3) They hamstring the food market speculators because they keep the price spread down and farm prices stable.

The congress "farm bloc" speaks for the large farm interests the

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ONLY IN THE DAILY WORKER
Tomorrow!

THE PEOPLE SPEAK

Declaration of the Yugoslav Constituent Assembly

via I. C. N.

Inter-Continent News gets the story from behind Hitler's lines. Direct eyewitness report!

YOU'LL MISS A WORLD SCOOP IF YOU FAIL TO

READ THE DAILY WORKER EVERY DAY!

Soviet Thrust Spreads

THE Soviet thrust pushing southward from the region of Kamemirovka seems to be spreading to the east and west of the main rail line to Rostov instead of pushing it pin-point fashion to the south.

The capture of Kamenka (which is NOT the Kamenak on the Donets, by the way) seemingly indicates a tendency to push toward the other railroad to the west—the one running from Kastornoye to Voroshilovgrad. It might be the intention of the Soviet command to cut that second "road" line somewhere in the region of Starobelsk (this railroad is only about 20 miles away from Kamenka). Its cutting would prevent the Germans from shuttling reinforcements from the Orel, Kursk and Yeletz fronts to their gravely menaced corridor between Rostov and Millerovo.

The spreading of the Soviet forces to east and west of the north-south railroad running to Rostov also seems to show that the Red Army intends to make its pincers stick and hold by making the ring a good and thick one. The Soviet High Command knows very well that the enemy is going to throw in his all to keep the corridor open and that fierce counter-blows are now being prepared by him.

At Stalingrad the Germans are still counter-attacking fiercely in the sector of Kotelnikov. Some people do not see why they should do this when their situation is so precarious hundreds of miles in their own rear. Here it must not be forgotten that Hitler in his last speech said that "no force on earth" would dislodge him from Stalingrad. Therefore, the continued presence of German forces at Stalingrad is a matter which far transcends the realm of military necessity. It is a question of world prestige, because failure to live up to his solemn promise might "ruin" Hitler in the eyes of the entire world, including his friends both across the fence and this side of it. This

By a Veteran Commander

is why there is little chance that the Germans will give up at Stalingrad except in extremis.

So far (in seven days) the enemy on the middle Don has lost: 20,000 prisoners, 108 tanks, 1,737 guns, 6,935 lorries, 5,500 horses and 82 dumps.

THE great number of supply dumps captured by the Red Army shows rather conclusively that the Germans intended to spend the winter in the Don valley and that the Soviet troops have ripped into the enemy deep rear, organized for good and for a long stay.

Red Army offensives continue on the Rzhhev and Velikie Luki fronts, although the tempo has been slowed, which is perfectly natural, the main effort at present being applied in the Don bend.

Answering the lies of the German propaganda, the Soviet Information Bureau has categorically stated that nowhere on the front were there any encircled Soviet army groups, and this includes the region "between Torgel and Kalinin."

IN TUNISIA some French troops are fighting their way toward Sousse with the object of preventing Rommel from entering Tunisia from the east. It is doubtful that they will be able to achieve their purpose unless very strongly reinforced by British and American troops.

Entry into Tunisia seems to be Rommel's main objective and it is to be expected that he will crash in with all his forces and that it will be no easy matter to stop him.

The RAF has bombed Munich as part of the general scheme to disrupt railroad communications between Germany and Italy.

In the Far East Allied and Japanese air forces are trading blows: the Allies bombed Akyab and Lashio (Burma), while the Japanese attacked Calcutta with a nuisance raid.

Nothing of importance to report from the other fronts.

Rommel Plays For Time in North Africa

By M. Tolchenov

(Correspondent for "Red Star")

(By Wireless to Inter-Continental News)

MOSCOW, Dec. 23.—It is clear now that Hitler does not count on holding the Tunis territory for a long time, or, what is even less probable, on capturing the initiative in the operations in the southwestern Mediterranean.

The presence of hundreds of thousands of Anglo-American troops, the vast quantities of equipment and the favorable positions occupied by the Allies which permit them to gradually wear down the Axis forces from two sides—these are the elements which will enable the Allies to repulse any offensive operations in Africa.

The Germans are now forced to direct their attention to the defense of the tremendous territories under their control in southern Europe.

The important thing for them is to slacken the pace of the Anglo-American offensive and to delay the inevitable moment when the whole African coast will be in Allied hands and may be utilized as a base for invading Europe.

Consequently the main aim of the German command at present is to gain the necessary time for organizing its defense.

The inadequate support for the Allied troops from the air was one of the reasons which enabled the enemy to stem their advance.

The further success of the Anglo-American forces and the tempo of their offensive depend on the speed with which the Allied command will be able to increase its fighter craft, create an extensive network of air bases, and win air supremacy on this front.

The military operations in Tunisia are approaching a decisive stage. Both sides are energetically preparing for the forthcoming battles. The Germans have obviously decided to exert every effort to retain their positions in Tunisia and have left in the district of El Aghelia Italian troops to slow down the advance of the Eighth British Army.

But to avoid a smash up of their main power the Axis command has ordered a general retreat.

The retreat of the Axis troops from El Aghelia has cleared the way to Tripoli for the Eighth British Army.

Nevertheless even with weak enemy resistance we must not expect a very high tempo in the British advance.

The enemy troops may halt and make a stand in Misurata. East of Misurata is a completely open, salt, marshy plateau which complicates the attackers' struggle for this oasis.

But the battles for this district will create a real menace to the rear of the Italo-German troops in Tunisia. The Allied air forces based on Libyan airfields are already taking an active part in the struggle for Tunisia.

As the distance between the First and Eighth Armies diminished they will tighten the ring around the enemy troops.

Norwegians Kill 150 Hitlerites

MOSCOW, Dec. 23 (ICN).—A detachment of Norwegian guerrillas together with a group of engineers blew up a German barracks, office buildings and fortifications in the harbor of Bodø. One hundred fifty Hitlerites were killed in the explosion.

Soviet Farmers Raise Huge Funds for Tanks

(By Wireless to Inter-Continental News)

MOSCOW, Dec. 23.—Soviet collective farmers aren't satisfied with raising more vegetables and cotton. They insist on producing tanks and planes, too.

Idea started with a woman at the "Put K Sotsializmu" farm in the Moscow region.

Nadya Maksimova, collective farmer, proposed to raise money to build a tank.

Her farm was first in the Lenin district of the Moscow region to finish its field work and turn in all grain obligations to the government.

Not only was her proposal adopted, but it took hold so hard that the idea spread like wildfire. It was decided to have a whole tank column, to be called the "Moscow Kolhozni." More than five million rubles was raised in two districts of the Moscow region.

Further east, the Tambov peasants got the idea, and raised forty million rubles for another tank column, to be called the "Tambov Kolhozni."

Premier Joseph Stalin wrote them a letter conveying the "fraternal greetings and gratitude of the Red Army" to the men and women farmers of Tambov.

The collective farmers around Saratov—most of them women, for the men were already in the Red Army—discussed the matter at one of their meetings, and determined to raise enough money to build a plane.

Down on the Stalingrad front, the Red Airman heard about it, and wrote the Saratov farmers a letter.

"We are deeply stirred to learn that you are going to give a plane," the letter said. "Our Command has decided that your plane is to be piloted by Hero of the Soviet Union, Major Vasily Shishkin. Your plane will be in reliable hands. He is ruthless toward the enemy."

Meanwhile, Major Shishkin, pilot of the first plane contributed, went to visit the "Signal Revolutii" farm—the first to give a plane to the Red Army—to report on the plane's initial month's fighting.

He told them that the subdivision which their plane was a member of had brought down 13 enemy planes in that period.

"Your plane is a fine one and has become the terror of the Fascists," he told them.

Stalin sent a telegram to the Communist Party secretary of the Saratov region and asked him to give congratulations to the farmers there.

"Thank you, Ferapont Golovaty, for your solicitude for the Red Army and its Air Force. The Red Army will not forget that you gave all your savings to build a fighting plane. Please accept my greetings."

"J. STALIN."

A Xmas Plea: 'Victory in 1943'

CAIRO, Dec. 23 (UP).—Gen. Sir Bernard L. Montgomery said today that the nicest Christmas greeting he ever received was signed by "a Yorkshire lass with a lad in the Eighth Army."

The girl wrote: "I wish you and our lads a very happy Christmas, good health, luck and by the grace of God victory in 1943. Keep 'em on the run, Monty."

The British commander replied that "we'll do our best to keep 'em on the run. Good luck to you! In the words of tiny Tim, 'God bless us all.'"

Leningrad Workers Get Soviet Awards

MOSCOW, Dec. 23 (ICN).—A war plant in Leningrad opened a new department run by wives of Red Army men and young women workers.

They got things going in record time.

In another Leningrad plant the workers topped the November plan, by 10 per cent.

A clothing artil which produces both for the front and for the city's civilian needs also went way ahead of its plan. The artil's workers swear they'll turn out 1,000,000 rubles worth over and above their plan by the end of the year.

At the same time that Leningrad's production workers turned out material for front and rear, her fortifications builders erected powerful defenses.

"The ring of defenses now surrounding Leningrad," said Pravda, in a recent article, "stretches for thousands of miles."

"It has powerful fortifications, fireproofs, embankments, barricades and anti-tank pits, Leningrad is now an impregnable fortress."

"The fortifications builders have fulfilled their duty. Like a powerful bastion the great city of Leningrad has blocked the way to the Hitler hordes."

For the successful building of defense fortifications around Leningrad, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet has awarded medals to over 400 working people, and to the engineering and technical troops of the Leningrad front.

Allies Move On Buna Mission

(Continued from Page 1)

Bay of Bengal and all returned safely, the Admiralty reported.

NEW DELHI, Dec. 23 (UP).—British planes bombed the strategic Japanese base of Akyab in western Burma last night for the third time in two days as the RAF stepped up its offensive to soften enemy defenses for invasion forces driving southward.

There was no further word of the ground troops, last reported less than 45 miles north of Akyab.

Meanwhile a British communiqué disclosed that a Japanese raid on Calcutta last night—third in three days—was carried out by only three planes and two of them were damaged by RAF night fighters.

British Labor Wins Probe of Plane Output

LONDON, Dec. 23 (ALN).—In response to vigorous demands from shop stewards and labor-management committees, Sir Stafford Cripps, newly-appointed Minister of Aircraft Production, this week set up a special board to investigate production in the aircraft industry.

One of the three members of the board is Frank Chappell, national organizer of the Amalgamated Engineering Union. Others are Sir Charles Bruce Gardner and Elsie Shaw, chief women's supervisor at the important Vickers-Armstrong plant.

Engineering trade unions have long charged that production of planes is being held up by wastage of raw materials, machine tools and manpower due to inefficient control of the industry by a few monopolistic firms, which also dominate the Ministry of Aircraft Production. Controller-General of MAP is a former managing-director of Vickers-Armstrong.

In its investigation of these charges, the new board will consult joint production committees, technicians, and trade unions. It will also inquire into working conditions, which in many plants are said to have held up output.

Concurrently with the board's investigation, Sir Stafford Cripps will make his own survey of the basic structure of the aircraft industry.

For this reason, workers do not share the view of most political commentators that Cripps, in being transferred from the office of Lord Privy Seal to the Aircraft Ministry, has been "demoted." He is now in a position to do a job of immediate value to the war effort, they feel.

'We Wish That This Gold ...'

(Special to the Daily Worker)

SANTIAGO, Dec. 23.—Gold miners of Santa Rosa made a gift of freshly mined gold metal to their "Soviet brothers" at a recent meeting, it is reported here.

These are the workers who wash the gold, and they are known throughout Chile for the unimaginable misery under which they live. "We have collected 18 4/10 grams of metal," the statement of their union leaders says.

"We wish that this gold which we mine, the cause of much misery, should on this occasion—through our offer be small and modest—serve the struggle against fascism as proof that we workers understand the sacrifice of our Soviet brothers. We wish them a speedy and to Hitler and his gang."

The declarations made by the secretary of the CPUSA, Earl Browder, about his interview with the Secretary of State Sumner Welles, gives evidence of facts which should contribute to higher optimism concerning what is to result from the unity of the people and the nations, the triumph of civilization over barbarism.

In the first place, this constitutes a lesson in democratic process for many so-called democratic governments and officials.

As is known, the interview took place on the initiative of the acting Secretary of State in order to clarify a misunderstanding about U. S. intervention in China.

Because of the lack of sufficient information, Browder made certain incorrect affirmations about such intervention, whereupon the Secretary of State called the secretary of the CP for an interview in order to remove whatever possible doubt existed.

Earl Browder responded to this gesture by recognizing his error and making public the words of Sumner Welles.

So much for the procedure. But there is still something more important. Thanks to this small incident, the U. S. Government had the opportunity to formulate several statements which, beside removing any possible doubts as regards the sincerity of its democratic attitude, show the way to all governments and powers who truly desire the defeat of Nazi-fascism.

"The civil strife in China, at all times unfortunate, would be especially unfortunate at a time when China is engaged in a desperate struggle of self-defense against an armed invader" were the words expressing his opinion.

And that is an advice given by the State Department of the U. S. to Chiang Kai-shek.

"The State Department in Washington," it states further, "has at all times taken the position, both in diplomatic contexts and publicly, that the United States favors 'complete unity' among the Chinese people and all groups or organizations."

Axis Troops Head for Mareth



While half of Rommel's Axis troops try to fight their way out of a trap about 75 miles from El Aghelia, the other half of the battered Afrika Korps is trying to reach the Mareth line (1). Fortifications extend eastward as far as Ben Gardane (2). But should they reach this line they may be in for more trouble, for U. S. troops are driving in from Tunisia (3) and have already pushed east of Sidi Bouzid.

Browder-Welles Talk Unity Interview Stirs Argentina

Sumner Welles' famous declaration of American policy, affirming this country's desire for unity of all forces fighting fascism, in China and within the United States, made to Earl Browder on Oct. 12, is receiving the keenest attention in many parts of the world.

One significant repercussion took place in the important South American country, Argentina, where the progressive weekly magazine "Orientacion," published in Buenos Aires editorialized on the Sumner Welles statement.

The editorial, of Oct. 22, has just reached this country, and we reprint it in full:

The declarations made by the secretary of the CPUSA, Earl Browder, about his interview with the Secretary of State Sumner Welles, gives evidence of facts which should contribute to higher optimism concerning what is to result from the unity of the people and the nations, the triumph of civilization over barbarism.

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Because of the lack of sufficient information, Browder made certain incorrect affirmations about such intervention, whereupon the Secretary of State called the secretary of the CP for an interview in order to remove whatever possible doubt existed.

Earl Browder responded to this gesture by recognizing his error and making public the words of Sumner Welles.

So much for the procedure. But there is still something more important. Thanks to this small incident, the U. S. Government had the opportunity to formulate several statements which, beside removing any possible doubts as regards the sincerity of its democratic attitude, show the way to all governments and powers who truly desire the defeat of Nazi-fascism.

"The civil strife in China, at all times unfortunate, would be especially unfortunate at a time when China is engaged in a desperate struggle of self-defense against an armed invader" were the words expressing his opinion.

And that is an advice given by the State Department of the U. S. to Chiang Kai-shek.

"The State Department in Washington," it states further, "has at all times taken the position, both in diplomatic contexts and publicly, that the United States favors 'complete unity' among the Chinese people and all groups or organizations."

The insidious fifth-column today paints itself sometimes in white, sowing discord against the Soviet Union and the Communists; and at other times paints itself "ultra-red" slandering the English and North American governments.

Their purpose always is to divide, to break the fundamental bloc of the three great powers, around which will be built, the triumph of civilization.

The commentary by Browder constitutes another contribution to the cause of unity among the nations, serving to remove all kinds of doubt and bitter taste in this respect.

Late Bulletins On Foreign Developments

LONDON, Dec. 23 (UP).—Allied bombers crossed the English Channel in daylight today for new raids on occupied Europe after night raiders set fire to two ships and shot up trains along a 275-mile stretch of Holland, Belgium and France.

Coastal command Hampden and Lockheed Hudson bombers last night hit and set fire to two medium-sized supply ships off Holland, the Air Ministry announced. One plane was lost.

Fighters and fighter-bombers raked railway targets in France, Holland and Belgium last night, damaging many locomotives.

CHINA
WITH U. S. AIR FORCES IN CHINA, Dec. 22 (Delayed) (UP).—Brig. Gen. Claire L. Chennault was decorated today with the Distinguished Service Medal.

Chennault, commanding U. S. Air Forces in China, won praise for his appreciation and understanding of Chinese problems which has resulted in a high degree of good will between army forces and the Chinese people.

CUBA
HAVANA, Dec. 23 (UP).—Hermogenes Badillo Lala, 44-year-old Spanish garage owner, was jailed today on charges of engaging in Spanish Falangist activities.

Capt. Mariano Paget, chief of the Enemy Alien Investigation Service, said the Spaniard went to Spain six months ago, where he conferred with Francisco Alvarez, a Falange official, and returned here two weeks ago on a Spanish steamer with instructions to work for the Falange.

BELGIUM
LONDON, Dec. 23 (UP).—The Belgian government-in-exile reported today that 2,000 Belgian judges and magistrates had gone on strike after German occupation authorities attempted to "pack" the Belgian courts.

A Belgian spokesman said the Germans sought to place picked henchmen in the courts in defiance of Belgian constitutional law. Three chief justices of the Brussels Court of Appeals were imprisoned when they objected.

ITALY
LONDON, Dec. 23 (UP).—Alberto Salucci, 78, member of the Italian Senate, died after being shot by an assassin, the Rome Radio reported today. The report, carried by the Exchange Telegraph Agency, said that the assassin had not been apprehended.

ENGLAND
LONDON, Dec. 23 (UP).—A New Year's message of the Most Rev. William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, said today that there is "good ground for believing that the turning point in the war has been reached and passed."

"We enter on the New Year with high hopes, but it is no time for complacency or relaxation. All of our determination and energy is still needed, perhaps also our endurance. . . . We should take stock of our capacity to crown victory in the war with a just and secure peace."

MALTA
LONDON, Dec. 23 (UP).—British naval forces have brought new, large reinforcements, war materials and supplies to the Mediterranean island fortress of Malta, the Admiralty announced today.

SWEDEN
STOCKHOLM, Dec. 23 (UP).—The Swedish government today decided to increase the number of troops under arms this winter and next spring, cancelling all military leaves and deferments "in view of the quickly changing international situation."

MEXICO
MEXICO CITY, Dec. 23 (UP).—The Chamber of Deputies, by a unanimous vote last night, ratified the recent agreement reached at Washington between Mexico and the International Bondholders Committee to pay Mexico's foreign debt. The measure was passed to the Senate for its approval.

The foreign debt, estimated at \$250,000,000, not including accrued interest, was reduced to about \$50,000,000. Mexico agreed to pay the debt in 25 years.

Approximately 50 per cent of it is owed to enemy nations. A recent Presidential decree suspended payment of this portion of the debt until after the war.

By Dick Floyd

THE ADVENTURES OF PINKY RANKIN



Figures Don't Lie, Mr. Mayor—

City Has Funds To Grant Raises

By Harry Raymond

The question of wages increases for city employees to meet mounting living costs has been placed squarely before Mayor LaGuardia.

Acting in behalf of the people of the city, the trade unions—both AFL and CIO—and independent organizations of civil service workers, the City Council by unanimous resolution has asked the Mayor and the Board of Estimate to bring city salaries up to meet wartime needs.

But before resolution was adopted last Tuesday, LaGuardia had already stated his opposition to the plan, saying:

"If the money is not available out of existing revenues, there is

the real estate tax rate would amply cover the increases asked. And this would amount to an increase of only \$1 or \$1.5 for the average small home owner.

CITY HAS THE FUNDS

But every fiscal expert in the city except the Mayor and Comptroller McGoldrick, who have adopted a pinch-penny policy of war-time budgeting, believes civil service wage increases could be paid out of treasury surpluses, without increasing taxes.

In snubbing the city-wide demand for pay raises for city workers earning under \$5,000, the Mayor is rejecting President Roosevelt's program, adopted for federal employees. This includes "wage stabilization with provision for cost-of-living adjustments and the elimination of gross inequalities."

The program advanced by the State, County and Municipal Workers Union of the CIO for city workers is:

1. A \$1,200 minimum wage immediately.
2. A 15 per cent adjustment for salaries \$1,200 to \$2,100.
3. A 10 per cent increase for salaries over \$2,100.

The city worker is not seeking a windfall in suggesting these schedules. His real wages have been drastically cut during the last two years.

His living costs have gone up more than 15 per cent. Increased taxes will now take 20 per cent of his taxable income. He is doing his best to spend 10 per cent of his pay on war bonds and stamps.

And this city worker has become the backbone of the wartime home front. He mobilizes manpower in the war effort. He is active in all phases of civilian defense. He keeps the hospitals running. He is responsible for the health and sanitary conditions of 7,500,000 people. He administers war time recreation facilities and keeps the city machinery operating on an efficient and business-like basis.

Failure to give at this time proper wage adjustments to these workers—in fact, all workers—would be a blow at home front morale.

The Mayor now has the problem and experts say he has the money to solve it. The people of the city are waiting for him to act.

Harlem Leaders Map School Aid Campaign

Preparations for a community wide mass meeting and a delegation to the Board of Education to take up the acute school situation are under way in Harlem, it was announced yesterday by the Permanent Committee for Better Schools, a group of prominent Negro and white citizens.

Plans were laid at an emergency meeting of the Permanent Committee at the Harlem YWCA last Friday evening. Mr. E. L. Dimitry, chairman of the committee, made the announcement following a vigorous discussion of the school situation in one of the committee's most spirited sessions.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting declaring that the evils of overcrowded classrooms, inadequate teaching staffs and Jim-Crow textbooks were not new, but that all of these problems had been greatly intensified by the war.

HARMS WAR MORALE

"The present school conditions harm the war morale of the city. The schools should be reorganized and placed on a war-time basis with the introduction of war-time activities for the children," the resolution said.

Participating in the discussion at the Friday meeting of the committee were Archbishop William Ernest, Assemblyman Hulan Jack, Miss Alice Citron, a Harlem teacher; Ben Davis, Jr., executive secretary of the Harlem Communist Party; Assemblyman William T. Andrews, Miss S. Griffin, Theodore Bassett, Miss Lucile Spence, prominent Negro teacher, and others.

Mr. Dimitry, following a report on the Friday City Council hearing on the bill to strengthen the juvenile aid bureau throughout the city, said that the improvement in the school situation was a key to checking truancy among school children. The report on the hearing was made by Ben Davis, Jr., Assemblyman Andrews and Jack.

"We should have immediate action, in collaboration with the Teachers Union and the entire labor movement, together with all Negro and white citizens, to see that the schools receive emergency remedies to facilitate winning the war," Davis declared.

Assemblyman Jack, a brilliant speaker, who made a stirring ap-

Flat-Top Crewmen Hit the Deck



Crew members of this U.S. carrier (right foreground) hurriedly fall flat on the deck to escape bomb fragments, as Japanese planes attack the ship. Plans, unable to take off, rest on the rear of the flight deck. An enemy bomber veers away (upper left) before the anti-aircraft fire of the crew. The date and place of action were not revealed.

Some Facts on N.Y. Farm Labor Problem

By Fred Briehl

Chairman, Farm Commission, N.Y. State Communist Party

The farm labor shortage problem can be divided into two general and practical categories—(1) temporary help; (2) permanent help.

Temporary help, for example, would be required at picking time, when pickers and packers are needed.

The availability of this help should be attended to well in advance of the time actually needed.

The farmers should be carefully canvassed, personally or by mail, to determine their needs. Provisions must be made in advance for transportation, housing and even such questions as fair working conditions and pay. There should be one centralized agency, with branch offices (perhaps one in each county) to coordinate this work.

Recruits for this type of work, which does not require any particular training periods or skill other than physical fitness and willingness to work, could be obtained from large and small urban areas scattered throughout the State, thereby using a labor supply close to the area of need.

NEED OF LABOR VITAL

Last year the State Legislature enacted the Young-Millmoe Law, which permitted the release of high school youth for a number of weeks during the Spring planting and Fall harvesting seasons. However, New York City only recruited 400 or so youngsters under this plan, although it is obviously possible to get ten or twenty times that number for this Spring planting with any kind of effort.

Re-enactment of the Young-Millmoe law with additional health and wage safeguard—is essential. Along with it, there should be a real drive by the school authorities and youth organizations for the widest recruitment.

However, this is only one phase of the problem, albeit a phase which lends itself to relatively simple solution.

The question of permanent farm help is definitely more vexing than the problem of temporary farm help. Permanent help, particularly on dairy and poultry farms, requires a high degree of skill, physical fitness and stamina, and considerable period of training. Inexperience or inefficiency here can do little good and, as has been proven, even do much damage.

So, in considering the problem of the permanent type of farm labor shortage, these following factors will have to receive attention:

- (1) Training of youth, women and those recruited from nonessential industry, or those still unemployed.
- (2) The War Manpower Commission to re-allocate the available manpower in order to obtain at least the minimum required for food production.
- (3) The reorganization (certainly in this emergency period) of some phases of the farm problem, the milk industry for example, so as to achieve the maximum of efficiency and economy of manpower and material by eliminating all wasteful duplications caused by competitive businesses—as usual.

(4) Attention to keeping all available farm machinery in operating condition and maximum use by government-operated, central repair work, pooling organizations, etc.

(5) Transfer of poor farmers to more productive farms with PSA aid.

These few points by no means cover the whole field; many details are involved. It is, however, encouraging to note that many individuals and organizations are thinking in these terms. It now becomes necessary without further delay to see that they materialize.

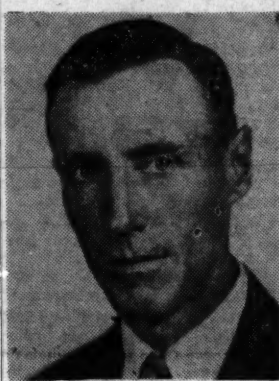
Landslide Kills 22 in Bus on Aliquippa Road

ALIQUIPPA, Pa., Dec. 23 (UP).—Crushed before they could move from their seats, 22 persons were killed when a thousand tons of rock and dirt roared down from a hillside and buried a bus on a highway near here.

Of the 25 persons in the vehicle, owned by the Ohio River Motor Coach Co., only three survived the freak accident last night. They were in the rear of the bus, which escaped the crushing weight of the landslide.

One of the injured was sent home. Two others were in General Hospital, Rochester, Pa. Most of the victims, including the driver, could not be removed until salvage workers had "melted the bus down" with acetylene torches. One victim was hurled out of the machine to the tracks of the Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad below the highway.

Highway Department officials estimated that 1,000 tons of rock and dirt, including a 60-ton boulder, hit the bus, crushing it like a paper cup.



FRED BRIEHL

AFL Economist Named on FDR Job Committee

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Boris Shishkin, economist of the American Federation of Labor, has been designated by President Roosevelt as an alternate member of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, it was announced yesterday by the committee.

Mr. Shishkin, who serves as consultant to a number of government agencies, was named to serve for William Green, President of the AFL, on occasions when it is not possible for him to attend the meetings of the committee. Mr. Shishkin will replace Frank Penton, Director of Organization of the AFL, who has been an alternate member since the launching of the committee. John Brophy serves as alternate for Philip Murray, President of the CIO.

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Carnegie Hall Rally to Hear Noted Leaders

The great American protest movement against the Nazi policy of exterminating the Jewish people has already brought together nationally known leaders of religious, civic and trade union organizations who will address the Carnegie Hall protest rally, Dec. 28 at 7:30 P. M.

Latest to endorse the rally is Louis Weinstock, secretary of District Council No. 9 of the International Brotherhood of Painters, AFL. Such meetings as the Carnegie Hall rally, organized by the Jewish People's Committee, Weinstock said yesterday in a public statement, "are a further expression of the determination of the Jewish people not to rest until fascism is wiped off the face of the earth."

"More meetings of this kind should be organized in every community and should be organized by Jewish and non-Jewish people alike," the labor leader declared.

CIO ENDORSEMENT

The Carnegie Hall rally was previously endorsed by the Greater New York Industrial Union Council, CIO, in a statement by Saul Mills, and by other unions and leaders.

Besides an array of speakers, the program will include entertainment by the outstanding actors, Morris Carnovsky and Dina Halpern.

Speakers will be the outstanding leader of religious Jewry, Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein, president of the Rabbinical Council of America; Congressman Emanuel Celler; Councilman A. Clayton Powell, Jr.; Ben Gold, president of the International Fur and Leather Workers of America; Michael Quill, president of the Transport Workers of America; and Max Perlow, vice-president of the United Furniture Workers and acting president of the Jewish People's Committee.

The well-known Cantor, Rev. David Puttermann of the Park Avenue Congregation, will lead the memorial services for the Jewish martyrs, murdered by Hitler fascism.

Tickets, priced at 40c and 55c, may be purchased at the offices of the Jewish People's Committee, 22 E. 17th St., or at any one of the following addresses: Bookstore, 80 Fifth Ave.; Workers Bookshop, 50 E. 13th St.; Bronx Cooperative, 2800 Bronx Park East.

BEN'S Luncheonette 181 University Pl. Quality • Service • Cleanliness Phone: GR. 9-460 • BR. 7-5736 UNION SHOP

Child Care Training Set

Three boroughs will start the New Year right with CDOV-endorsed training courses for Child Care Assistants, Mrs. Robert V. Russell, training chairman of the Greater New York Civilian Defense Volunteer Office, announced yesterday. The new courses will begin Jan. 5 in Manhattan

Drop Nowak Charge, Auto Local Demands

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DETROIT, Dec. 23.—The immediate quashing of charges against State Senator Stanley Nowak was demanded today by the Cadillac Division of Local 174, United Automobile Workers, CIO.

Dave Miller, plant chairman of the Division, said that the Local is contributing to the Nowak Defense Fund.

The resolution commended Senator Nowak's work in "promoting the best interests of the workers."

"We workers in the Cadillac Division of Local 174 feel deeply indebted to him for the wise counsel and constructive leadership he gave us in saving our union when irresponsible elements sought to destroy it," the resolution reads.

The CIO union demanded that instead of persecuting Senator Nowak, the Department of Justice investigate the activities of such known obstructionists, appeasers, and anti-government forces as Coughlin, G. K. Smith and Clare Hoffman.

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WAR COSTS MONEY — BUY UNITED STATES WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

WLB Grants Pay Rise to News Drivers

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23. — The War Labor Board ordered a \$5 a week increase for about 3,000 newspaper delivery employees in New York today.

The Board approved the award of a two-man arbitration board in the dispute between the Mail Deliverers Union and the Publishers Association of New York. The arbitrators were Arthur S. Meyer and Fred C. Croton.

The wage increase retroactive to July 1, 1942, will continue for the duration of the contract which will result from the arbitration award.

CITES LIVING COSTS

In recommending the increase, the arbitrators found that "an increase in wages is necessary in order to correct the maldistribution resulting from rises in the cost of living."

They pointed out that New York's newspaper delivery workers have had only a two per cent increase in wages since Dec. 14, and that the \$5 increase will come within the 15 per cent Little Steel formula.

Even with the \$5 raise the delivery men will still be receiving less than the wages paid for comparable

trucking jobs in New York, the arbitrators cited.

The War Labor Board statement, however, condemned the short-lived strike of the newspaper delivery workers.

"In approving the interim order and award of arbitration board in this case, the National War Labor Board expressly condemns the action of the Newspaper and Mail Deliverers Union in New York and vicinity in calling a strike in clear violation of the national policy to eliminate the use of economic force in the settlement of labor disputes for the duration of the war."

Labor members of the Board joined both in approving the wage increase and in condemning the use of the strike weapon.

The arbitrators took no action so far on the union demand for job security. This demand is still under consideration.

The arbitrators turned down the union demand for a one week vacation with pay until six months after the duration of the war. If the union then votes for vacations with pay, there is to be an automatic reduction in wages of \$1 a week.

U.S. Navy Aids British Casablanca Survivors



This dramatic moment was photographed as British seamen, whose craft was torpedoed during the invasion of Casablanca, Africa, were helped aboard a U. S. warship. The cold survivors were given a warm welcome by the American sailors who passed out cigarettes, food, and blankets to the rescued men. This is an official U. S. Navy photo from News of the Day Newswatch. (Central Press)

Anaconda Charged U. S. Plenty for Wire

(Continued from Page 1)

more output.

The union guaranteed lower operating costs in low grade ores provided the company operated.

President Philip Murray of the CIO joined Robinson in pressing the plan on the copper companies and the Government. The copper companies, however, "sat down" till they got a big price increase.

In January, 1942, the Government agreed to pay 17 cents a pound (instead of 12) for every pound over the amount produced in 1941.

RIISING PROFITS

In 1941, incidentally, the company's profits rose sharply over its 1940 total—on the basis of 12 cents a pound.

Robinson called the price increase "a complete victory for the deliberate sit down of the metal mining operators during the last year and a half."

The union leader continued: "The refusal of the corporations to produce more necessary metals was a deliberate act on their part to force prices higher and win higher profits in the face of the nation's need for metals right now to prevent more Pearl Harbors and Wake Islands."

And Philip Murray wrote President Roosevelt that the union had been the "only group to offer any concrete program to increase production of non-ferrous metals."

BARE LABOR SPIES

Anaconda Copper Co.'s NAM ties and use of labor spies and tear gas were barred by the United States Senate Committee on Civil Liberties (the La Follette Committee).

The company was subsidizing the NAM to the extent of \$6,000 a year in 1937, the last year of which the committee had records of this work.

One of its officers was a member of the NAM board that same year. Anaconda also spent \$4,312.27 for tear gas in 1934 and \$8,162 for industrial detectives in 1935, and \$4,671 for the same purpose in 1936.

Anaconda controls nine newspapers in Montana and gets along well with Burton K. Wheeler, the America First Senator.

And as the biggest mining company in Chile it has long played a reactionary role in that South American land.

Brewster Corp. Rapped By WLB

(Continued from Page 1)

the absence of advanced techniques of personal administration.

"In addition, it is our considered judgment that the failure of the chief executive of the company to evidence a genuine collective bargaining attitude has complicated the situation."

The panel recommended a two-cent-an-hour increase in the present 60-cent starting rate and in the present 75-cent minimum rate which becomes effective after four months. Thousands of other workers not in these two categories will also get wage increases if the panel's recommendations are approved by the full board.

Complicating the Brewster situation has been the refusal of the Board to agree on uniform job classification and wage rates for workers.

The WLB panel proposed that a three-man committee representing the union, the company and WLB shall take charge of upgrading and classifying the workers.

Those workers who are reclassified will get the wage increases which the committee finds they are entitled retroactive to Sept. 12, 1942.

Classifications made by the three-man committee shall also be used as the basis for distributing a five cent wage increase retroactive to April 12 to those workers eligible.

WORLD TODAY!

James S. Allen covers the major events in the struggles for national independence throughout the world.

Regularly in THE DAILY WORKER

by del



"Hey, Mrs. Worthington—we CONCEDE that women have a place on the production line!"

Farm Subsidy Foes Would Raise Prices

(Continued from Page 1)

food monopolists and speculators.

That's why it is fighting the subsidies and obstructing price control.

The elimination of the subsidy plan will have serious effects. It will drive prices sky-high in some food products in order to enable small farmers and independent dealers to stay in business, in which case the monopolies and big farms will reap huge profits. If prices should be kept under control, it would drive the marginal farmer off the land, thereby cutting into vital food production and tightening the control of the food monopolies unless middlemen were eliminated.

Subsidies alone cannot, however, keep prices under control. Over-all rationing is essential for that. Therefore, rationing, too, is the continual butt of attack by these congress obstructionists, and by the defeatist press.

This chaos in our food production and distribution program has the people bewildered. The obstructionists are trying to take advantage of this bewilderment to turn the people against all price-control and rationing, thereby increasing the chaos.

There has been too little mass support for the forces that are fighting for an over-all price-control, rationing program, which should include farm subsidies.

There has been too little attempt to explain the issues to the farmers so that they, too, will join the fight.

Inflation, sky-high prices and food shortages hit the farmers equally with the rest of the population, and they will rally to the struggle against them if the labor movement, in particular, conducts the necessary struggle to make the matter clear to them.

The whole anti-inflation and war economy program of the Administration is involved in this fight for price control, rationing and farm subsidies.

Poletti Orders Probe of Vandalism

(Continued from Page 1)

the Jewish cemetery in Saranac Lake also has been desecrated.

"I am directing the State police to undertake an immediate and thorough investigation and to turn over to the District Attorney the evidence the State police uncover."

Declaring that religious freedom is a cornerstone of American democracy, Poletti said: "Those who commit such atrocious acts are traitors to the ideals of our beloved nation. They betray democracy at home, while our men and women die for it in battle. Hitlerism and the Ku Klux Klan do not belong in America."

The Governor urged all law-enforcing officials throughout the State "to use every means at their command so that such un-American activities are stopped. All true Americans will cooperate with them."

Poletti did not specify where other destruction of Jewish religious property has occurred in other parts of the State.

5 WAACs Arrive In North Africa

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, NORTH AFRICA, Dec. 22 (Delayed). — Five WAACs were on duty with American fighting forces in North Africa today, the first members of their organization to reach this theater of operations.

The WAACs, attired in trim khaki uniforms which they must wear as long as they are in an active war zone, arrived from England. They had been flown to England disguised as civilians from the United States.

Briefs on War Prices And Rationing

Issuance of "B" and "C" supplemental gasoline rations in the east will be renewed early next year under a "new and tougher" policy, the OPA announced yesterday. War Price and Rationing Boards have been instructed to examine new applications with extreme care and to grant supplemental rations to the absolute minimum.

A flat 10 per cent reduction in the amount of print paper to be used by each magazine publisher in 1943 as compared with 1942 has been recommended by the WPB to the magazine advisory committee.

The price agency yesterday decided that prices on pepper were "fair." The trade was trying to boost the price of spices.

"Workers Lose by Rising Prices" is the caption over a graphic chart appearing in the current issue of American Teacher, official organ of the American Federation of Teachers.

Issuance of "B" and "C" supplemental rationing advisory committee. Food shortages are due to army needs and not Allied consumption, the War Production Board reported yesterday.

Because of the lack of rationing, Detroit housewives are paying \$1.25 a pound for butter.

Clock Makers Prepare 'Victory Model' for 1943

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Production of alarm clocks may be resumed early next year, according to the prospects outlined yesterday in a conference of the non-jeweled clock and watch industry advisory committee and officials of the consumers durable goods division.

The industry, through its advisory committee, responded readily to the WPB's suggestion of a "victory" model alarm clock. In the popular price class, the suggested "victory" model would be designed to use the least amount of copper and brass in movement parts, and a non-metal type case. Clock manufacturers at the meeting volunteered the services of their technicians in developing a victory model.

Coleman Pardon Now Up to Olson

A pardon for Festus Coleman, young Negro worker framed and sentenced to 65 years in the penitentiary in San Francisco, is now up to Governor Culbert Olson of California.

The Governor's advisory pardon board last week refused to recommend a pardon, after Olson had asked it for an advisory opinion. Olson's own decision, however, does not rest with this board. He is statutorily enabled to act independently.



Dear Paul,

"If your boss thinks he can still do 'business-as-usual,' I think you ought to let people know. Why don't you write the Daily Worker about it?"

"Yours against 'business-as-usual' bosses,"

"TEAN."

Write The Daily Worker

WLB Takes Steps to Step Up Decisions

(Continued from Page 1)

final except in certain cases where appeals will be permitted, procedure of which will be announced later. WLB also will reserve the right to review cases on its motion.

Complete operation of this plan will make the 12-man WLB in Washington a "supreme court" hearing for the most part appeals from regional panels and industry commissions.

The Board in Washington will assume original jurisdiction only in cases of national importance or involving national or major policy issues.

SPEEDING UP CASES

George W. Taylor, acting WLB Chairman, explained the Board's decentralization program to speed up action on cases as follows:

"The goal towards which the Board is aiming in its decentralization program is a simplified procedure under which Mary Jones, who works behind a counter in a department store, and Harry Miller, who handles a machine in a war factory, can get quick action on the requests of their employers or unions for wage or salary adjustments."

Unions have been urging the Board to speed up its procedures for some time, pointing out that long delays have been injuring production morale and resulting in sporadic strikes.

The United Automobile Workers and the United Electrical and Radio Workers have been the latest to call on the Board for remedial steps.

Labor observers point out, however, that the decentralization program must have adequately staffed WLB regional offices. Additional funds, therefore, will be required from Congress.

One important step proposed by the UE would be to give WLB immediate jurisdiction as soon as a dispute arises. Sometimes months are wasted while officials of the United States Conciliation Service try to bring the parties together.

Another proposal favored by the UE and other unions is stabilization of wages and working conditions on an industry-wide basis.

WLB has taken steps in this direction by setting up five industry-wide labor-management-public commissions to handle all disputes arising in non-ferrous metals, northwestern lumber, New York milk drivers, Detroit Tool and Die and the trucking industry.

Flower Exhibit Opens

The annual Christmas exhibit of the season's flowers are on exhibition in the Greenhouse in Prospect Park at Prospect Park West and 9th Street, Brooklyn.

Active Partners

Earlier Deadline

An appreciative note is due to all those who rose to the emergency during the strike last week, and saw to it that the Daily Worker reached the people. Although the strike was in no way directed against our paper, regular deliveries were suspended. In every section of the city the circulation was maintained and doubled during the days of the strike. Jack Martin of the Circulation Department proved a tireless, effective and resourceful worker during this emergency.

Others, like Murray Mills of the 3rd AD Bronx, Dave Rosenberg of the Industrial Division, and Janet Taylor of the 3-5 AD Manhattan, more than earned special mention. Congratulations to these and to the scores and hundreds of other comrades who did noble work.

The new Press campaign is now under way, and will extend until Lincoln's Birthday, Feb. 12. In New York State we are out for 10,000 new small subscriptions, and an increase of 5,000 in the weekly bundles. This will bring the circulation of THE WORKER to over 50,000 in our state. In this new drive which started Dec. 12, the leading Sections in sub-getting are again the Bronx Sections, which leaped into the front ranks. 2nd AD Bronx leads with 46 subs, followed by the 7th AD with 45, pursued by 4-5 AD with

40 Subs. It might be noted that the 2nd AD and the 4-5 AD are the only two Bronx Sections which failed to win Banners in the recent drive. It seems that they are out to make up for their past failures.

Plans are afoot to have the Daily Worker come out earlier in the evening, in order to make it possible for the Sections and Branches to use this early edition to cover meetings in all parts of the city, to get the paper out on the streets early, as we learned how to do during the strike last week, and thus make it available to much larger numbers of readers.

This is the last time that the present writer will do this column. From now on it will be written by Bob Appel, who has assumed the newly created post of Circulation Manager of the Daily Worker and the Worker. Bob is well known throughout New York for his energy and ability. For several years he has organized and carried through successful circulation drives in various sections. The conspicuous successes scored by the Bronx in the recent period have been due in no small degree to the organizing ability of Bob Appel. We are fortunate in having him assume the post of Circulation Manager of the Daily Worker and The Worker.

Soviet Drive Takes Six New Towns

(Continued from Page 1)

lage garrison threatened to turn his artillery on his troops if they retreated.

The Red Army command announced at noon Wednesday that advancing Soviet troops had taken a number of inhabited localities, and 2,370 prisoners were captured in two narrow sectors alone.

The offensive, now in its second week, had netted more than 22,500 German captives.

Izvestia said strong winds, driving blizzards and heavy snowfalls were impeding the Soviet advance, but armored columns led by 52-ton Klim-Voroshilov tanks were cutting swaths in the crumbled German defenses, crashing line after line before it was firmly established.

DESTROY GARRISON

Other dispatches said the Red Army destroyed almost the entire German garrison of a village astride a hub of important highways. The Germans, ordered to hold at all cost, sent up a battalion of reinforcements.

Slashing through barbed wire entanglements, Soviet assault forces drove in with bayonets and soon the village streets were choked with German corpses.

The Red Armies of Col. Gen. Nikolai Vatutin and Lieut. Gen. Philip Golikov were reported driving southward in parallel columns on both sides of the Rostov-Moscow railroad, apparently aiming at a junction for a combined assault on Millerovo, key railroad town 125 miles north of Rostov.

Vatutin's vanguard last was reported in the area of Degevo, 18 miles northeast of Millerovo, while Golikov's advance elements were in the area of captured Morozovka, 36 miles north of the town.

The Germans still were abandoning their heavy equipment as they fell back through 30 to 40 villages. Wherever they tried to snatch a foothold, the Red Army stormed in and seized the unstable positions.

BLAST ENEMY ATTACKS

In a two-day battle at one unidentified point Soviet troops were reported to have killed 1,000 Germans and captured 30 guns and big quantities of transport material. In another sector a full German battalion, including its commander, surrendered.

Soviet spokesmen reported that the battle southwest of Stalingrad, where the Germans were throwing everything they had into an effort to break through to their army encircled at the Volga city, had flared to a new peak of intensity.

The German command launched the biggest attacks of the last three weeks against an inhabited point on that front, field dispatches said. Soviet troops broke the attacks, wrecked 60 tanks and destroyed 21 guns.

The Germans threw 70 more tanks at an inhabited point. Soviet artillery halted them at the ap-

How Soviets Broke Lines In Middle Don

(Continued from Page 1)

be the most vulnerable directions. Advancing, the Soviet regiments rapidly closed in on the enemy's flanks.

While part of the forces continued to press the enemy in the direction indicated by the command, another part attacked the support points from the flanks, forcing the enemy to retreat.

One enemy battalion tried to entrench in a hamlet included in the Derzovskaya support point, only to be encircled and completely wiped out. The fascists lost over a regiment of infantry here and many guns and tanks.

On another sector a rifle division successfully advancing, met with stubborn enemy resistance.

With swift blows, part of the division's forces encircled the support point blocking it, while another part of its forces continued the pursuit to give the enemy no chance to recover. The tank men excelled themselves here.

NAZIS STUNNED

On all the sectors the enemy, stunned by the surprise blows, was beating a hasty retreat in motor vehicles.

Pursuit was possible only for mobile units, and the tanks coped with this task.

Frequently the tanks got ahead of the enemy units and suddenly appeared on their flanks or even in the rear, whereupon the enemy soldiers broke into panicky flight, abandoning equipment and armaments.

At the fortified lines and inhabited points the enemy tried to put up resistance to stem the advancing units. On one sector he counter-attacked with a few dozen tanks. Permitting the enemy tanks to approach within close range, the artillerymen under the command of Yegorov, opened heavy fire. The enemy retreated, leaving some 17 tanks on the battlefield.

BLAST ENEMY TANKS

On an adjoining sector some two regiments of German infantry and a group of tanks tried to drive a wedge in a junction between the advancing units.

A few salvos from the Guards mortars separated the enemy infantry from the tanks, which became a target for the artillery. Few tanks got away. The enemy infantry regiments were routed by Soviet rifle units.

The fighting for Bogucher and the district center of Tally was very stubborn. In these points the enemy kept large garrisons.

In Bogucher the Germans had concentrated vast quantities of munitions.

To prevent the enemy from evacuating all the armaments and equipment from Bogucher the Soviet units secretly enveloped the city, cutting off all the routes of retreat.

ILD Joins Nat'l Groups in Nowak Defense

Three national organizations joined this week in announcing their offer of complete support to Michigan State Senator Stanley Nowak in his defense against a charge of perjury based on statements made when he became an American citizen in 1937.

The three organizations are the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, the International Labor Defense, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

"The charge against State Senator Nowak can only be explained as persecution because of his pro-war, pro-labor activities and record," the organizations' joint announcement stated. "Bringing such a criminal charge against him at this time is disruptive of national unity and conflicts with the war effort. Stanley Nowak is and has been an aggressive leader of win-the-war forces in Detroit, especially in labor circles. He was very active in opposition to the election of anti-war legislators in the recent elections."

State Senator Nowak is charged with having committed perjury because, the indictment alleged he was a member of the Communist Party at the time he became an American citizen in 1937.

The three organizations announced that they would seek to persuade Attorney General Francis Biddle to over-rule the action of the local federal prosecutor in Detroit who sought and obtained the indictment.

THE NAZI SUBMARINE SUDDENLY DISCOVERING THAT FOR SOME MYSTERIOUS REASON IT COULDN'T MOVE!! COULDN'T NEITHER GO UP OR DOWN—BACKWARD OR FORWARD—NOWHOW—THE ATTACKED MERCHANTMAN GETS SET FOR THE KILL—



If She Can Do It Here, She Can Do It at Boeings!



Miss Vivian Thomas of Atlanta, Georgia, is doing her part to keep them flying. She is one of a number of women mechanics now working at the Primary Flying Field, Tuskegee, Alabama. Miss Thomas, 19 years old, attended Spellman College for two years before entering war work.

Questions and Answers

Browder Discusses Raw Material Problems

What is wrong with the present system of allocation and distribution of raw materials? Is there an actual shortage of raw materials? How would centralized war production break the raw materials bottleneck?

The necessity of such overall centralized administration of production may be seen most vividly by a glance at such key elements in the production picture as the allocation of raw materials and the distribution of manpower, not to speak of the role of the small enterprises in the whole process of war production.

Take the allocation of raw materials to production. Raw materials and their continuous supply are quite evidently basic to maximum production, in fact to any kind of continuous production in war industry and in the whole economy.

What we have seen during the last year has been the breakdown of all attempts, so far, to secure the proper allocation of raw materials. To all appearances, we have been faced with shortages of key raw materials, shortages which have brought about a chaotic situation in war production. A mere indication of these shortages, however, shows very clearly that there is actually no shortage of these materials in the country so far as the needs of war production at this period are concerned.

There may be an actual shortage at a particular point of operations, and this we see every day. Factories close or are working part-time in the most essential war industries because the raw materials are not present at the point of operations. But an overall examination of the situation shows that the places where there is an immediate shortage are more than balanced by other places where there is an over-supply. There is overstocking, which in many cases reflects a definite policy of hoarding of raw materials by individual producing concerns. In the actual working out in life, the system of priorities, which was supposed to prevent such a condition as this, serves to facilitate raw material hoarding because it is not in any way related to a schedule of production requiring a definite apportionment of raw materials.

The apportionments roughly carried through by priorities were at best the earmarking of raw materials for a particular contract or a block of contracts. But these war contracts have not been and are not yet in prospect of being contracts based upon production schedules; and the allocation of priorities on raw materials for prospective production as far as two years in advance. The result

has been that contracts which follow them in point of time but which call for immediate production, have been subject to the priorities secured by contracts for production up to two years ahead. Clearly, there is no possible way of securing the apportionment of raw materials which will assure uninterrupted production through out the economy except by a raw materials pool under a centralized control and plan. And this is certainly not possible through the existing system of assigning all of these functions of planning and control to the individual producing concerns, even though there is a high degree of monopolization, especially in the war industry.

Far from securing, through the planning of the individual monopolies, that proper apportionment of raw materials which we are seeking, this high degree of monopolization produces the opposite effect, because the greater the power of the ten big concerns that

hold half of the war contracts, the more they untidily withhold raw materials from the other concerns and the more they compete among themselves to secure strategic advantage for the control of war production, and especially for attaining the predominant position in industry after the war. One of these big ten of the monopoly producers, for example, will have a shortage of material A and a surplus of material B. Another will have a surplus of material A and a shortage of material B. If their stocks are pooled, the two of them alone would provide continuous production. Because their stocks are not pooled, both of them have bottlenecks and shortages of key materials which limit and even shut down immediate production.

This is the essence of the raw materials allocation problem which is forcing us on to the road of a planned war economy under centralized administrative control as outlined in the Pepper-Tolan Bills.

WLB Must Speed Action, Says Osman

Reactionary National Association of Manufacturers efforts to provoke a strike wave may be successful if the War Labor Board doesn't find a way to speed up actions on union agreements, Arthur Osman, president of Warehouse Workers Union, Local 65, warned today.

His local alone has contracts affecting at least 100 shops tied up in the case-lammed files of the War Labor Board, Osman said, and most are cases where management and labor have agreed on a settlement. But gains are withheld pending formal WLB sanction.

He has called upon the board to adopt a policy of approving all consent cases—including those where arbitrators have ruled—subject to a later review.

This would have the effect of putting cash into a worker's pay envelope within a reasonable time after negotiation.

PAY TIED UP

Osman said that not one case which had to pass through the elaborate machinery of the WLB has as yet put a thin dime in a Local 65 worker's pocket. That's since Oct. 3. Thousands of dollars are tied up in retroactive pay.

"One agreement alone involves 1,200 workers," he said. "The contract expired in September. We started negotiating in July. It took until October to reach an agreement. Managements don't always hurry now that labor has waived the right to strike in the interests of winning the war."

"By that time the Wage Stabilization Order had been issued. The result is that those workers still

haven't received a nickel under that agreement."

He told of another shop, the All-Craft Company, which processes items for the Army.

"Wages were \$17 and \$18 a week there," he said. "Resentment was terrible among the workers. They couldn't live on that pay. It was hard to keep the people on the job and improve morale for war production. The case went to arbitration and after a prolonged period we got a decision. It's a month now and they still haven't received WLB approval."

Osman was critical of procedure at the Wages and Hours Division of the WLB where negotiators are supposed to learn whether their agreements require WLB approval. "You don't get a real answer there," he said. "They tell you yes and no on everything. The employer has been cautioned not to give rates unless he's sure no approval is necessary. He waits."

"The effect of the conference at the regional office is to make you uncertain. We have never yet had one case where they said it was unnecessary to ask WLB for formal approval."

Coney Island Sets 9th Sendoff Party

The Coney Island Council for Victory is running its ninth gala send-off party and entertainment for the inductees of Coney Island and Sea Gate this Monday, Dec. 28, at 8:30 P. M. at the Half Moon Hotel. A handy kit and a carton of cigarettes will be presented to each inductee, while a service flag will be given to their folks who will be present.

Rev. Francis A. Froehlich of Our Lady of Solace Church, Rev. Chapelle of the First Baptist Church of Coney Island, and Lieut. Freeman of the U. S. Army will be guest speakers. Mr. Abe Cohen, president of the Council will preside.

Full Text of Hillman Address

U.S.-Soviet Unity Key to Victory and Lasting Peace

Enduring friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the other United Nations is the "key, both to victory over the Axis and the establishment of a secure and lasting peace," Sidney Hillman told 800 guests at the Commodore Hotel Labor dinner of Russian War Relief Tuesday night.

The text of Mr. Hillman's speech, one of the most significant addresses by an American labor leader on the Soviet Union's world role, follows in full:

THIS impressive gathering of representatives of organized labor in New York, like the response of our whole population to the appeal for Russian War Relief, bears testimony to the generosity of the American people, who have been deeply stirred by the suffering of our heroic Russian ally and have rallied to assist in this great humanitarian cause.

But the response to Russian War Relief has a deeper significance—one that is of paramount importance, both for winning the war and for shaping the post-war world. Our giving is motivated by something more than the warm impulse to relieve human suffering. It is also a token of our conviction that the Soviet Union occupies an honored place in the family of the anti-fascist nations, and that close and enduring friendship, understanding and cooperation between the Soviet Union and the other United Nations is the key, both to victory over the Axis and to the establishment of a secure and lasting peace.

It is of this second aspect of Russian War Relief that I wish to speak tonight.

The idea of an anti-fascist coalition of the peace-loving nations of the world—now embodied in the United Nations—had its beginning long before the outbreak of the war. Had we succeeded in realizing such a coalition in time of peace, the destructive and terrible war which has been thrust upon the world might have been averted.

Nor can it be said that we failed because we were without leaders who saw the drift of events and foresaw the inevitability of war unless the anti-fascist forces united against the Axis, as its shadow grew longer and more menacing with each unchecked act of aggression.

President Roosevelt, in his historic Chicago address called for collective action to quarantine the aggressors. Linnikov, speaking for the Soviet government at Geneva, tirelessly preached the doctrine of collective security. Churchill, in England, repeatedly warned of the Hitler danger and criticized his government for refusing to collaborate with the Soviet Union.

Yet the timely and far-sighted program urged by these statesmen remained unimplemented by action.

The failure to achieve collective security led to the shameful record of 1936 to 1938—commencing with the advance of Japan into China and culminating in the triumph of appeasement at Munich.

It would serve no good purpose at this time to attempt to assign the blame for the failure to achieve the anti-fascist coalition, which might have prevented the outbreak of the war. The immediate future is so fraught with problems, the need of this is no moment to debate the responsibility for past mistakes. It is sufficient to recognize that serious mistakes were made and to set a course which will avoid them hereafter.

Two facts, however, need to be noted as a guide for future action. First, there was among the western democracies a serious underestimation of the strength of the Soviet Union and of the importance of its role in the world picture. This underestimation went to the strength of the Red Army, the capacity of Soviet industry, transportation and agriculture, the stability of the Soviet state and the unity of the Russian people.

A second misconception lay in the belief, shared by many, that there could be no common basis for collaboration between two economic systems so different as those of the Soviet Union and our own.

Both of these misconceptions were assiduously fostered and persistently played upon by Hitler and his agents. They were given currency in this country and in Europe by men who were either the conscious allies of the Axis or the unwilling victims of its propaganda. The observations of a few careful and competent first-hand observers—like Ambassador Davies—went unheeded. Indeed, so deep-seated was the belief in the irreconcilable conflict between our two ways of life that Hitler was able to sell the Axis as an anti-communist agreement, despite its clear character as a military alliance for world domination.

Eighteen months of the most sustained and savage warfare that the world has ever seen have fully exploded the myth of Soviet weakness.

The Red Army proved itself to be the only armed force in existence which was prepared to give successful resistance to the full weight of Hitler's military machine.

Soviet industry, agriculture and transport have performed the prodigious task of continuing to equip

divide the liberty-loving people of the world, as they were divided in 1938, and open the way to their defeat, one by one.

Unable longer to attack directly, they do so furtively. They say that we owe Russia no debt of sympathy or gratitude because she is not fighting for us, but for herself. Of course, Russia fights for herself—as we fight for ourselves. Each fights to preserve its freedom and independence in this great people's war of national liberation. Each, in fighting for itself, contributes to the common cause. Only if we fight together can our cause triumph.

The voices that preach division and distrust today, in the heat of battle will grow louder and more insistent once the victory is won. Then the forces of appeasement and reaction will make their all-out effort to divide the United Nations and defeat the common purpose. For these gentlemen are not interested in waging a people's war or writing a people's peace.

We, the common men of the United Nations, want no repetition of Versailles. We are not working and fighting and dying in order to reenact that mad imperialist scramble for power. We want no uneasy truce as the prelude to yet another war.

We fight for the four freedoms and all that they imply. We fight for a lasting peace based upon full political democracy for all the people of the world—the right of the men and women of each nation to determine for themselves how they shall govern themselves. We fight for economic security based upon an economy of abundance, not upon the people of a few favored nations, but for all lands and all men. We fight to sweep away the political and economic barriers that hamper the complete development of the world's resources, and to extend the full benefits of modern industry and modern technology to the farthest corners of the earth.

Finally, we fight for political equality and equal economic and cultural opportunity for all men, everywhere—whatever the place of their birth, the color of their skin, their racial ancestry or the manner of their worship.

If we are to achieve these great goals, we must spare no effort to cement the unity of the United Nations and of their common people who hold to these high purposes.

To labor, in particular—throughout the United Nations—falls the task of strengthening the bonds that now unite us, achieving an ever closer agreement upon our common aims and aspirations, and exposing and defeating the forces of reaction which would divide us.

Only if we succeed in this task can we make certain of military victory. Only in this way can we make certain that victory shall not have been won in vain.

First Negro Women Hired By ALCOA

(Special to the Daily Worker)

CLEVELAND, Dec. 23.—After lengthy negotiations with the Mine Mill and Smelter Workers Union, the Aluminum Company of America here has placed 25 Negro women on production, it was announced today.

In making the announcement, union officials gave much of the credit to J. Lawrence Duncan in charge of Negro affairs for the Cleveland area WMC.

The first 25 Negro women to be hired by the Aluminum Company's huge smaller plant are employed as inspectors, final inspectors and machine helpers, according to Earl Burns, CIO organizer. Their starting rate of pay is 68 cents per hour plus bonus incentives.

Company spokesmen today already expressed satisfaction with the work being performed by the new Negro women workers, who are employed in plants K, H and N.

Two thousand five hundred Negro men are employed at the Cleveland plants of the Aluminum Company.

ONLY FIRST STEP

Union officials indicated that this victory is only a first step and expressed the hope that Negro women would be hired for production by the company as rapidly as qualified persons applied for employment.

Burns called upon all the Negro workers to increase their participation and support of the union, pointing to the election yesterday of three Negroes included in the progressive slate which was voted into office by the members of the Local 755 of the UMWMSW.

This latest victory follows a long struggle by the local union, first for the hiring of Negroes, then for equality of Negroes in the hiring hall, and recently for the rights of Negro women to produce the implements for this People's War.

Union Lookout

CITY WORKERS DISPUTE MAYOR'S CLAIM OF NO FUNDS FOR PAY INCREASES

The State, County and Municipal Workers of America, CIO, yesterday disputed Mayor F. H. LaGuardia's implication that funds were not available to pay a general wage increase to city employees.

James V. King, the union's New York president, charged that the Mayor had presented no figures to deny the union's estimate of funds available in the city treasury to grant the raises.

King, pointing the City Council for passing the resolution asking wage increases for city employees, said the city still has not used \$32,000,000 of its taxing power and has an estimated \$23,000,000 in unused accruals due to the non-filling of vacant jobs.

The basic factor, King said, is the morale of 150,000 employees "who are attempting to bear the added burdens of greatly understaffed city departments on salaries which have been reduced by the rising living costs below decent subsistence levels."

CIO MOBILIZES FOR CDVO

A real drive to get members of CIO unions to participate in the CDVO's block plan system was under way here today under the sponsorship of the Greater New York CIO Council.

Every affiliated local union is being asked to recruit volunteers to serve in an army of "moral wardens" who will direct families in their neighborhood in the fields of salvage, war transportation, consumers problems, nutrition, recreation, services for servicemen, welfare and child care, housing, education and the like.

The Council has prepared enlistment cards which union leaders are taking into the shops for signature by men and women ready to serve as group directors. Each director will lead the activities in 20 families in his or her neighborhood.

Posters calling upon volunteers to "Enlist your free hours for freedom" have been prepared by the CIO Council and are now being sent out for display in union halls and plants. Unions are being asked to nominate candidates also to serve as zone and sector directors according to a quota which CDVO will draw up.

AMALGAMATED DONATES FUNDS

Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, CIO, yesterday presented a check of \$25,000 to Russian War Relief and a check of \$10,000 to United China Relief.

The checks, presented on behalf of the New York members of the union, were in addition to funds already contributed by the New York Amalgamated members.

Dmitri Zalkin, Vice-Consul of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and Allen Wardwell, chairman of the New York campaign committee of Russian War Relief, received the contributions on behalf of the Russians.

Dr. Tsune Chi Yu, Chinese Consul General, and Frederick H. Wood, chairman, New York City campaign committee, United China Relief, accepted the check for the Chinese.

BUILDING TRADES WORKERS WIN PAY

Two hundred and ninety-four building trades workers collected a total of \$1,608.64 in November from employers who were paying less than the prevailing rates of pay on construction projects, the State Labor Department announced yesterday.

The Bureau of Public Works of the Department found and corrected 476 violations of laws and regulations, including violations on six public works projects.

Industrial Commissioner Frieda S. Miller also reported that the Bureau had made 28 wage surveys during the month and established 29 wage schedules.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Children whose union-member fathers are in the armed forces

Best Seats Available Lenin Memorial Meeting

Madison Square Garden

JANUARY 11th, 1943

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For your convenience, we will remain open till 10 P.M. on week-days, 8 P.M. on Saturdays up to Dec. 23rd.

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THE WORKER

A Worker's Xmas Gift!

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(A Christmas Gift Announcement with your name will be mailed with the first issue.)

THE WORKER
50 East 13th St., N. Y. City

'They're Good,' Says Navy Of Women Stevedores

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 23 (UP).—The Navy conceded today that women, storming one bastion the men had regarded as secure, had made good as stevedores.

Just as they replaced men as riveters and welders, women have filtered into waterfront jobs—driving trucks, checking and packing supplies for ships of the fleet at navy terminal.

They're good too, according to

Cmdr. Thomas Cochran, Navy Supply officer, who said some of them were better than men.

Among the women stevedores is a Columbia University graduate and a former school teacher. Others are erstwhile stenographers, ribbon counter clerks, musicians and housewives.

One housewife is Mrs. Thelma Blanchard, whose husband was lost in the submarine Shark.

Majors to Train Up North, May Set Back Opener

The entire spring training program of the major league baseball clubs faced drastic revisions today and possibility of postponement of the season's opening developed as five clubs planned a switch to conditioning sites close to home.

The New York Giants, St. Louis Cardinals and New York Yankees followed a 24-hour-old move by the Brooklyn Dodgers, by abandoning their 1943 Florida training camps to help curtail wartime transportation problems. The Philadelphia Athletics announced plans to train at Savannah, Ga., several days ago.

A letter from Commissioner Kenesaw M. Landis requesting all major league clubs to arrange spring bases further north to acquiesce to a demand by ODT Director Joseph B. Eastman for less unessential travel in 1943 made the Giants cut loose from their Miami, Fla., camp and the Cardinals and Yankees simultaneously relinquish their St. Petersburg, Fla., headquarters.

The Dodgers gave up plans to train at West Palm Beach, Fla., for the same reason Monday.

Hence, if most of the clubs are to train close to or even on their own home territory, the opening of the season may have to be set back two or three weeks. Such a possibility will be discussed at the February meetings of the major leagues.

Giants' Secretary Eddie Brannick also disclosed cancellation of 10 spring training games along the grapefruit circuit with the Cleveland Indians, a series that was to have been played in Miami, Clearwater and Jacksonville, Florida; Charleston and Columbia, S. C.; Richmond, Va., and Harrisburg, Pa.

Brannick said the Giants would do their early training in North Carolina and "finish up in New York City."

Sam Bredon and Ed Barrow, presidents of the Cardinals and Yankees, respectively, agreed to the change in a long distance telephone conversation. They have made plans to train their squads at some point outside of Texas, Florida and California, with Albany, Ga., under direct consideration.

The Yankees have trained at St. Petersburg for the last 10 years and the world champion Cardinals have used the same base since 1938. Bredon said that as a result of the shift, entirely new exhibition-games schedules—completed earlier this year—would have to be drawn up.

The plan to use service teams as

Pucks and Passes . . .

The Boston Bruins clung to their two-point lead in the National Hockey League by coming from behind in the third period to tie the Toronto Maple Leafs, 4-4, before a crowd of 10,000 at Boston Garden.

It was the second tie by the Bruins in the two clubs had played in the first two games of the season.

Boston led briefly in the opening period when Jack Schmidt scored at 11:33 but Syl Apps and Reg Hamilton put a goal apiece in the

second and third periods. The Bruins then scored twice in the third period to tie the Leafs, 4-4, before a crowd of 10,000 at Boston Garden.

The standings:

	W.	L.	T.	P.
Boston	11	5	5	27
Toronto	11	7	3	25
Detroit	8	5	5	21
Chicago	6	6	4	20
Montreal	5	12	3	13
New York	4	12	2	10

SCORES

Purdue 43, Washington University (St. Louis) 42.
Bowling Green 63, Heidelberg 41.
Manhattan 43, Syracuse 22.
Manhattan Beach Coast Guard 37, Brooklyn College 36.
Wisconsin 48, Oklahoma 37.
Midland 55, Omaha 40.
Camp Grant 41, Illinois 31.
Loyola 52, Chicago 30.
Muskogee 45, Youngstown 38.
Long Island Univ. 79, Springfield 58.

JOHNNY BORICAN

The tragic and sudden death of Johnny Borican, one of the greatest natural athletes ever developed in the world leaves fans and friends alike, stunned.

This splendid Negro track star, called by many the greatest all-around athlete in history, passed away Tuesday night at the age of 29 after a ravaging and unknown disease had wasted him to only 110 pounds from his former robust 175 pounds which were spread magnificently over his six-foot frame.

Physicians have been unable to diagnose the malady although one doctor claimed it had come as a result of too much training in which the athlete had "burned himself out . . ."

Another doctor said Borican was a victim of "pernicious anemia" a disease not unknown to many athletes.

But whatever the cause, the nation loses one of its most brilliant and distinguished athletes, a man respected on and off the cinder paths as a great runner and a talented scholar and painter.

Johnny Borican was one of those amazing runners who could win practically any race he set his mind on taking.

At the time of his death he held two world titles—1,000 yards indoors and 800 meters outdoors. In 1940 he captured the national pentathlon and decathlon crowns, the only athlete in the world to turn the trick in the same year.

The only title he never took was the mile and that was because he never trained for the distance and so in his only two attempts he was beaten.

But otherwise he was simply devastating on the track. He would run in any race at a moment's notice and win it easily with that wonderfully casual, long and powerful stride which was the envy of the track world. There wasn't a man in the world who could stand up against his blistering last lap sprint in which he opened up with his terrific burst of speed to clinch the race.

Breaking world records was his forte and he pro-

ably possesses more of those than any man in track history.

But Borican was not only a magnificent track man—he was a wonderful basketball star, an ace outfielder in baseball and a hard-hitting halfback in football. In short, there was practically nothing this splendid man couldn't do.

Johnny Borican was born in Bridgeton, New Jersey, where he spent most of his youth. He won many scholastic honors as well as athletic honors early in school. From high school he went to Temple University but illness forced him to quit. After a period of rest he attended Virginia State College where he was a three letter man. . . . From there he went to Columbia University where he received an M.A. and was in line for Ph.D.

Borican was a talented painter whose oils brought high praise from art critics and painters alike, and for some two years before his death had painted in a studio in New York City. . . .

When the Daily Worker writer saw Borican last, some three months ago, there wasn't the slightest indication of illness and the great Negro star seemed to have no inkling of what was to come soon after.

The disease became apparent some nine weeks ago. Doctors were at a loss to diagnose the illness and soon Borican, as Lou Gehrig before him, wasted away to a shadow of his former self.

The writer will long cherish the memories of Johnny's wonderful body tearing around the track at Madison Square Garden, winning race after race. He is beloved by all track people and millions of fans all over the country.

His death at the very peak of his magnificent life deprives the armed forces of a staunch fighter and a wonderful man.

He will be remembered for many years—as long as free men engage in athletics the world over.

Nat Low

Along Fistic Row

Beau and Zivic Feb. 5th; Henry Faces Rigid Exam

By Bill Mardo

With a boldness that was positively alarming, the NBA yesterday recognized Beau Jack as the leading lightweight contender in the country. . . . You didn't think they were

gonna go whole hog and accept him as the 135 lb. champ, did ya? Beau makes his first start since putting the chill on Tippecanoe, against the former welter king, Fritz Zivic, in an over-the-weight match at the Garden Feb. 5th. Fritz has been scrapping on the West Coast, and it was there that Henry Armstrong highlighted his comeback campaign with a decisive 10 round win over the Pittsburgh cutie. . . . Fritz has been seeking a . . . 29th bout with Henry for the Garden, but Mike Jacobs hasn't looked too favorably upon the proposition. Anyway, the on-and-off Robinson-Armstrong match for the same date is more on than off at present, with Hank already signed, and Ray more receptive to the idea than he was previously.

Chairman John J. Phelan, of the State Athletic Commission, made it very clear that Armstrong would have to submit to an especially rigid physical examination if he wishes to fight in New York. "It has always been customary

to examine all boxers before permitting them to engage in bouts," Phelan said. "But in the case of Armstrong, we will take extra precautions, because of varied reports on his physical condition. His current success, however, seems to indicate that he is in excellent shape."

The farcical lightweight elimination

tourney assumes even more ridiculous proportions, when on Jan. 8th in the Garden, Bob Montgomery tangles with Chester Rico, and Maxie Shapiro meets Joey Ferrara, both events scheduled for the 15 round distance. . . . Can you imagine the boys going to all that trouble for the dubious privilege of being the next boxer to get booted by the belling Mr. Beau Jack?

The Cleveland matchmaker, Nat Bolden, inaugurated his tournament to find a light-heavyweight "duration" champ when he let Anton Christoforidis and Nat Bolden wait through an unexciting, dull, ten-rounder the other night. Christoforidis, giving away six pounds to his

foe, received the nod. . . . The next round of the tourney may have Jimmy Blivins and Ezzard Charles mixing it up. Ezzard is the rapidly rising Negro battler who has compiled an imposing record against rather formidable opposition.

Tentatively scheduled for Feb. 8th, a Blivins-Charles match would be a natural, for both fighters can punch like hell. Blivins can not afford to lose this one, as it would probably knock him out of a New York match with Tami Mauriello. . . . And we imagine that young Ezzard Charles is kind of anxious to come East, and reap the harvest of Mike Jacobs' promotions.

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Through the Hoop

Among Southern California's basketball opponents, LIU enjoys a unique distinction. The Blackbirds are the Trojans only intersectional foe whom they enjoy a record book advantage.

The Trojans won only one game of the three played since 1938, but with a veteran team this year, expect to even the count when the teams meet again in the Garden on Monday night.

The Trojans' single victory was one of the most notable in Garden history, however, for their 57 to 49 triumph in 1939 broke a winning streak the Blackbirds had carried over 43 games.

Five members of that team will be back in the Garden on Monday, though sophomore additions to the squad have crowded into two of the starting places. Captain Ted Gossard and Alex Omelev, a six-foot, three-inch center, are seniors.

However, a new coach directs their activities, Ernie Holbrook, who succeeded Jack Hupp when the latter enlisted in the air corps. Holbrook is one of Southern California's all-time basketball greats, the outstanding star of the Trojan teams from 1933 through 1935. For the past five seasons he has been coach at the Washington High School in Los Angeles.

His new pupils made a fast start

under his direction by winning their first five straight on the West Coast. En route East now, they stop over in Buffalo on Saturday to meet Canisius in one of the games of a doubleheader there.

The USC-LIU engagement is one half of the holiday week carnival program on Monday. Kansas meets unbeaten Fordham in the other game. The Rams have won six in a row, and though unheralded thus far, appear to be strong contenders for the metropolitan title.

Just four days ago the papers raved unthinkingly loud over the talented St. John's five, predicting a brilliant and unbeaten season for the Brooklyn Indians—today, Joe Lapchick and his boys are ruefully surveying the wreck of their season's plan. . . .

St. Johns took a beating Tuesday

night from Niagara, 46-40 at the Brooklyn gym. Harry Boyoff's 14 points went to no avail as the upstarters played a hard, fast-breaking game all night, the lead changing sides on less than eight times, the game being tied at 20-20 at half time. . . .

College Hoop Results

Niagara 46, St. John's (N. Y.) 40.
Temple 49, Phila. Coast Guard 42.
Great Lakes 55, Grew View 32.
Albright 55, Cornell 29.
Southwestern 44, Springfield Tech 21.
Stanford 46, Santa Clara 44.
St. Mary's Naval Reserve 53, California 35.
Utah 45, Montana State 36.

Inquiry Into Chris Cagle's Death Begins

Police investigated today the mysterious circumstances surrounding the death of Christian K. (Red) Cagle, 37, former All-American football star at West Point.

Cagle died early yesterday morning at Physicians' Hospital in Jackson Heights, Queens. The hospital reported tentatively that his death was due to pneumonia, but it was believed he had a fractured skull. An autopsy will be conducted today.

Cagle, who was employed by a New York insurance firm, collapsed Saturday evening in the lobby of the apartment house (35-13 73rd St., Jackson Heights) where he lived with his wife and two children. He managed to make his way upstairs in a semi-conscious state, and, before he lost consciousness, mumbled to his wife that he had been "kicked in the head."

Earlier in the evening, Cagle had telephoned his wife to tell her he had been delayed but was on the way home. A while later, he was observed by tenants and employees of the apartment building slumped in a chair in the lobby in dazed condition.

It could not be immediately determined whether Cagle had been injured in a fall in the streets which were icy that night, or in some other accident or had been assaulted.

Detective Lieut. John D. Moffett said, "We cannot say he was assaulted."

The police reported that Cagle pointed to his forehead when he told his wife about being kicked in the head, but no marks were found on the front of his head. There was a cut on the back of his head.

Cagle was rushed to the hospital and for some time before his death was kept under an oxygen tent.

He was appointed to West Point from Louisiana in 1928. He won All-American honors while playing with the Army teams of 1927-28-29. He captained the team in 1929, just before his graduation, he was requested to resign, his secret marriage to the former Marion Munford Hale on Aug. 25, 1928, having been revealed.

Subsequently he was football coach at Mississippi A. & M. College and worked as bond salesman for a Louisiana concern. In 1930-31-32 he played pro football for the New York Giants and later had an interest in the Brooklyn football team.

LOWDOWN—Rounding Up the Sports News, Here, There, Everywhere

We understand there is a more lenient attitude in Washington now toward service boxers engaging in outside bouts, thanks to the heroism of Barney Ross and the excellent spirit displayed by virtually all service pugilists in training or on duty. Hence the negotiations to match Corporal Billy Conn and Light Heavyweight Champion Gus Lesnevich (of the Coast Guard), for a non-title bout at Madison Square Garden in February.

Dan Parker, able and fearless sports columnist of the New York Daily Mirror, assured his readers yesterday that he would not accept a soon-to-be-vacated post on the New York Boxing Commission, although Governor-elect Thomas E. Dewey recently asked him if he could be interested. Parker explained: "What would I use for a punching bag if I were on the Boxing Commission myself?"

Although promoter Mike Jacobs staged no outdoor bouts in 1942, he enjoyed the most prosperous indoor season since he took over Madison Square Garden in 1937. He staged 29 shows this year, with a total attendance of 334,198 and a total gate of \$1,169,671. His shows averaged 11,524 fans and \$40,334. Last year he staged 23 Garden shows, drawing a total of 268,282 fans and \$784,732.

Did you know that Jim Figg, father of "modern" prize fighting, always had to defend his British championship with three weapons—the broadsword, fists and cudgels? When he defended against New Sutton at London on June 6, 1727, Figg drew first blood by slashing Sutton on the shoulder with his sword. Then they fought with their fists and Jim battered Sutton to the platform in the fifth round and made him cry "enough!" Next they battled with cudgels—short, heavy clubs—and Figg broke Sutton's knee. Sutton had a dizzy day.

VETS BALL TONIGHT EVENT OF THE YEAR

We don't have to give too big a plug to the Annual Christmas Eve Ball of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade—anyone who is anyone knows that these boys are among the hardest hitting anti-fascists in the whole country. . . . They were bopping off fascists long before any one else. . . .

The Vets dance is usually the event of the year for progressives, but this year it promises to be bigger and better than ever before. . . . Dancing to the strains of Frank Walters' band, such top-notch entertainment (\$2.20 and \$4.40 on Broadway) as the screamingly funny Zero Mostel and Ray Bolger—novelties by Pete Johnson and Albert Ammons, great Boogie-Woogie piano duo, singing by the famed Jericho Quintet and more songs by the famous baritone, Wilbur Evans—and many more stars of stage and screen who cannot be named because of Hollywood affiliations. . . . Come one—come all—TONIGHT, XMAS EVE AT MANHATTAN CENTER, 34th St. and 8th Ave. . . . 99 cents admission.

ing Sutton on the shoulder with his sword. Then they fought with their fists and Jim battered Sutton to the platform in the fifth round and made him cry "enough!" Next they battled with cudgels—short, heavy clubs—and Figg broke Sutton's knee. Sutton had a dizzy day.

Lieut. Commander Jack Dempsey, former World Heavyweight Champion, said today that he and his wife, the former Hannah Williams, had parted friends, and the matter of a divorce is in the hands of his attorney.

"Hannah has left our Scarsdale home and I believe she plans to go to Reno for the divorce," said Dempsey, now athletic director at the Manhattan Beach Coast Guard Training Station.

"I'm awfully sorry it had to happen, but it's just one of those things."

The couple were reconciled in July, 1941, after more than a year's separation. The new rift developed more than two months ago, after they had moved into their new home at (2 Bradford Road), Scarsdale, N. Y.

PASADENA, Cal.—An ankle injury slowed All-American Frankie Sinkwich today as Georgia worked out in Tournament Park for their Rose Bowl clash with the UCLA Bruins.

The injury bothered Sinkwich's running and also interfered with his kicking. Coach Wally Butts, however, said he probably would be all right in a day or two, but indicated he is taking no chances and will keep Frankie under wraps.

Despite a sore ankle, however, Sinkwich turned in a passing performance that showed why he was chosen as the year's outstanding player. Charlie Trippi, back, alternated on the firing end of the ball, with Van Davis,

PHILADELPHIA.

—Coach Hartley (Hunk) Anderson today announced the starting backfield of the National League All-Star football team which will tangle with the pro champion Washington Redskins at Shibe Park next Sunday.

Tommy Thompson, Philadelphia Eagles, will be at the quarterback post; Bill Dudley, former Virginia player now with Pittsburgh, at left half; Merlyn Condit, Dodgers, right half, and Harry Hopp, Detroit, fullback.

Anderson, who put his stars through their first secret practice yesterday, said that he had not yet decided on any particular starting line.

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The Partisans



The Yugoslav Debate

By James S. Allen

THERE is one central, solid fact about Yugoslavia which seems to escape most political commentators. Without recognizing and admitting this fact, all discussion about the inner situation of Yugoslavia loses perspective.

That fact is that the Yugoslav People's Army of Liberation has created the second most important front against Hitlerism in Europe. From the viewpoint of the number of Axis soldiers actually engaged and of proximity to the decisive battlefield upon which Hitler must be defeated, the Yugoslav front is second in importance only to the Soviet Front.

And this is said without underestimating the significance of the new African front nor of the Anglo-American bombings of industrial and strategic centers in Europe. The African front derives its main significance from the fact that joint offensive operations by the American and British forces have created still another bridgehead for an attack upon Europe. The bridgeheads on the British Isles and in North Africa, supported by a tremendous accumulation of power, are the base for the major second front—which, unfortunately, is still only potential, which still must be developed.

In Yugoslavia, however, there is already an active land front, which engages three times the number of Axis soldiers now under attack in North Africa. It is a front close to the strategic centers of Axis power in Europe. That front is in a country which borders on both Germany and Italy, in a country which touches the Axis satellites—Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria, and which gives access to Albania and Greece.

Furthermore, the Yugoslav people's army has liberated one-third of the country, the first areas west of the Soviet border wrested from Axis domination. And this great accomplishment is now consolidated further by the Constituent Assembly of the All-Yugoslav Anti-Fascist Council which established the first new people's authority to arise in all of Europe.



The Wrong Plan

THE proposed draft-labor law for all men and women between the ages of 18 and 65 approaches the problem backwards.

The problem is not to force workers into war industry; the problem is to plan production so that the workers can be used to best advantage where they are needed most.

Does anyone believe that there is resistance by labor to the planned distribution of manpower? On the contrary, the organized labor movement has had to fight and is still fighting for a genuine over-all manpower plan for the sake of maximum output.

What is needed is not a new plan for manpower mobilization, but the organization of war production along the lines of the Pepper-Tolan Bill. Only in this way can the needs of manpower even begin to be fully known and solved. The recent steps taken by President Roosevelt, giving the Manpower Commission under Paul V. McNutt new powers and direction, contain all the necessary ingredients for the solution of the problem. The new draft proposal creates unnecessary problems.

Through its president, Philip Murray, the CIO has just presented to the Manpower Commission an eminently efficient plan that will guarantee to every war plant its necessary labor force.

Murray's plan, which elaborates the ideas of the President's recent actions, is based on the collaboration of the War Production

Board, the Army-Navy procurement agencies and the Manpower Commission. It emphasizes the participation of organized labor. To extend such coordination, the labor movement is also urging the enactment of the Pepper-Tolan bill which will provide an over-all scheduling of production and centralized control of the interlocking phases of war production.

Why does the voluntary collaboration of employers and labor for manpower distribution, which has been successfully applied in Detroit, need to be junked for a new draft-labor plan which solves nothing, but creates instead a host of new problems?

If labor is only too eager for organized manpower distribution, then why the need for this new draft law?

Can it be that certain political forces are preparing to use this proposed plan to help in the new assault on the labor movement now being planned by defeatists and reactionaries?

Is there some notion of heading off the labor movement's proposal for centralized war economy by turning the country's attention to the Clark draft-labor plan, which is one-sided and which evades the production questions altogether?

The draft-labor plan, all patriotic Americans ought to see, is not the answer to the manpower problem. Murray's plan is much better for the country and for war output.

The Mayor's Position

NEW YORK CITY is heading toward a wholly unnecessary crisis, created by the Mayor's strange unwillingness to meet the issues of wartime economy.

The people are agreed that 150,000 workers in the city's service should have the necessary wage increases to meet the higher cost of living. This was demonstrated at a public hearing on Monday where labor and civic bodies urged passage of the Schick bill to grant increases to a large section of the city employees.

It was indicated, further, in the unanimous passage of a resolution in the City Council, urging the Mayor and the Board of Estimate to give the increases, despite the Mayor's opposition.

Such wage increases have been established as federal policy. They are part of our war stabilization program. President

Roosevelt has applied this policy to workers employed by the federal government. New York City, an outstanding progressive city, can do no less.

Failure to grant these increases puts the city out of step with the rest of the nation, and is a serious blow to the morale of the workers, who are performing valuable war services. These services will, thereby, suffer considerably.

The Mayor's explanation of lack of city finances will not hold water. Experts have shown in detail that there is more than enough now in the city treasury to pay the increases requested.

The Mayor's position is wholly untenable. It is the job of the people of the city to make him see the light on this matter.

Let's get it settled, and proceed with united ranks to the job of winning the war.

New Savagery Against the Jews

OVER the face of Europe the Hitlerite monsters spread a new pall of slaughter and savagery against the Jewish people. Hitler's cannibal plan to exterminate millions of Jews by the end of 1942 is being ruthlessly carried out.

Decent men and women everywhere are moved to the bitterest anger against such depravity. Not so, of course, the New York Daily News, which is one of Hitler's little helpers in America. In an editorial Tuesday the Patterson sheet refers to the Jewish persecutions in order to sing a hymn to the "power" of Hitler. In true fascist fashion, it concludes that the Jews will have to be left to complete extinction in Europe, with the ironical "hope" that certain survivors in such places as America may "take up the work of rebuilding the race."

Such a cynical fascist view is certainly not held by any right-thinking democrat. The new flood of accounts of Hitlerite po-

groms stirs real lovers of freedom to insist upon hastening the invasion of the European continent, so that an end may be put to the massacres engineered by the Nazi savages. They call also for the firm declaration by the United States government that every agent of the Hitlerite clique who carries out such massacres will be dealt with summarily.

The Soviet government, which is combating the Nazi beasts with an all-out effort which other free nations might well envy, made it clear this week what it will do in regard to the tortures and slaughter of the Jewish people.

New York will have the opportunity to express its white-hot indignation against these Nazi atrocities at the Carnegie Hall meeting, to be held under the auspices of the Jewish People's Committee next Monday night.

It is to be hoped and expected that there will be the large outpouring on Monday which this meeting deserves.

It is now generally conceded, although in some quarters still reluctantly, that the Partisans or the People's Army is the force actively engaging the enemy. It is also admitted, aside from the frantic communiques of the Royal Yugoslav Cabinet in London, that Mikhalovitch had withdrawn from the struggle against the Axis and has been fighting the Partisan Army.

It should be evident to everyone that in fighting against the Yugoslav liberation forces Mikhalovitch has by that act allied himself with the Axis and its puppets, even if there were not at hand documentary proof that he is actually in the pay of the Germans and their Serbian puppet Nedich. But there are some people who think that this is not cause enough to prove the "General" a traitor and to place him in the category of the enemies of the United Nations.

Some newspaper writers taking their inspiration at least in part from the reactionary Greater Serbian Nationalist wing of the exiled Yugoslav government, seem to be quite willing to forgive Mikhalovitch of his treachery if only he can prove serviceable in preventing the complete victory of anti-fascism in Yugoslavia.

UNFORTUNATELY, the appeasement forces are fed with arguments by well-meaning people who know the truth about Yugoslavia but are confused in their politics. Such is the case with Louis Adamic, who, as a nationally prominent Yugoslav American for many years associated with the protection of the rights of the foreign-born, commands a position of respect.

In his recent article in the Saturday Evening Post he has revealed much of the truth about the Yugoslav situation—the great role of the Partisan army, its support among the people, the participation of the finest leaders of the people in its ranks. What is difficult to understand is why, after acknowledging that Mikhalovitch fights the Partisans and that he "is necessarily closer to the quisling apparatus in Yugoslavia than to the pro-Russian partisans," Mr. Adamic still presents the whole situation as a "predicament," a "nightmare."

In reality, Mikhalovitch's predicament is that he has been thoroughly exposed as a quisling and it does no service to the Yugoslav people to make it appear that his predicament is their nightmare.

The Miners Stand by the CIO Program Despite John L. Lewis

By Roy Hudson

Recent events in the mining field confirm the fact that the Cincinnati Convention of the UMWA, dominated and controlled by John L. Lewis did not express the true sentiments of the membership of the UMWA.

The Tri District Council, representing most of the locals of the three main districts in the Anthracite area in Pennsylvania, have reaffirmed their demand for autonomy, spoken out against disaffiliation from the CIO, and throughout the anthracite area there has been widespread resentment against the increase in dues dictated by Lewis.

In West Virginia, many important local unions have registered their determination to continue the fight for autonomy and pledged to maintain unity with the rest of the labor movement in support of the war effort.

In Pittsburgh the attempt of Lewis to establish a stranglehold over the miners organization by defeating Patrick Pagan, president of District 5, met with major resistance. Lewis's attempts to victimize and intimidate miners who were members of the Pagan-for-President committee did not succeed, although this danger has not been eliminated by any means. Several attempts upon the part of the Lewis forces to incite expulsions in meetings of the local unions failed to get any support. Even if the Lewis candidate is elected, the size of the Pagan vote, piled up as a result of a brief campaign and with limited forces, shows that with better organization and a placing of the issues the Lewis forces, who threw 100 District 50 organizers into the campaign, could have been roundly defeated.

DISTRICT 6 CONVENTION

The district convention of District 6 in Ohio, the first one held since 1928, perhaps more than any other event, clearly expressed the attitude of the miners. The fact that this convention was even held undoubtedly is proof of the fact that the demand of the miners for democracy can no longer be handled in the same arbitrary manner that has prevailed in the past and with which Lewis attempted to dispose of the question of autonomy at the Cincinnati convention. This convention, in sending greetings to President Roosevelt, to the defenders of Stalingrad and to the lead-

ers of the nation's armed forces—in its endorsement of the Pepper-Tolan Bill and in a number of other important actions, worked out win-the-war policies—a thing that the Cincinnati convention did not do. The fact that there were no anti-CIO speeches or resolutions at the Ohio Convention, that Lewis' telegram to the convention was received without applause, is proof of the fact that Lewis has not succeeded in inciting the miners against the CIO nor has he aroused enthusiasm and active support for his leadership.

The extent to which the conditions of the miners have been worsened and the failure of the Lewis leadership to bring about a solution of their accumulated grievances was brought forward by the miners at the Ohio Convention. The existence of these conditions and dissatisfaction also shows that Lewis' ability to continue to appear as a "champion of the economic interests of the miners" is reaching an end.

WAGE NEGOTIATIONS

What is more, some sections of the miners are already beginning to feel that Lewis' policy in connection with the forthcoming wage negotiations offers them no guarantee that this situation will be changed. These feelings are more than justified. Lewis' position so far is that the miners should press for a wage increase, but that in view of the "uncertainties of the war," should postpone formulation of demands and concrete policies.

But a definite policy needs to be established now—and this policy should provide not only for a general wage increase to meet increased cost of living, but should also provide for adjustment in wage rates in accord with increases in productivity of the miners. Only such a wage policy will fully meet the needs of the miners and defend their interests and be in accord with the interests of the nation. The reason why Lewis has no such policy is because he does nothing to increase production, because he seeks to hinder the war effort, and as a result of his defeatist program, his policies also sacrifice the interests of the miners.

All these recent events show that when the miners have an opportunity to express themselves they take a stand in support of the war. They show that, wherever win the war policies are actively and consistently put forward the miners can be won for support of such

BUT Mr. Adamic is troubled by another question, and it is this that makes him reserve judgment. He sees in Yugoslavia a three-cornered struggle between fascism, democracy and Communism. According to him, the liberation struggle led by the People's Army is a Communist revolution and the democratic forces with which he vaguely identifies Mikhalovitch are caught in between. He makes it appear that the Soviet Union through the "Third International" is fomenting revolution, which is to spread into France and Germany. And, he asks, "if Hitler cannot beat it down—what then will happen to democracy?"

In other words, Mr. Adamic lifts the whole Yugoslav liberation struggle out of the context of the people's war against Hitler and would transform it into a struggle between Communism and fascism.

This, of course, is not the case. The Yugoslav liberation front is a national front—in which the Communists undoubtedly play an important part but which is essentially a combination of all patriotic forces. Their objective is clearly stated: the liberation of their country from the Axis yoke.

THE way William P. Shams of the Scripps-Howard press and Harold Callender of the New York Times are utilizing Adamic's confusion to fan the fires of a "negotiated peace" with Hitler should be enough of a warning. Is not Hitler claiming that only he and his henchmen can keep the lid down on Europe and save it from the "Bolshevik" tide? Is not Hitler seeking to save himself by a "negotiated peace" by making it appear that he is fighting Communism?

The peoples of Europe, of course, will not wait interminably for deliverance by outside military aid. They are gathering their own forces and are fighting for their own liberation. It is a national war, a war carried on by all patriots, of which no single party has a monopoly.

In the task of saving themselves and humanity from extermination, individuals and whole nations are judged primarily on the basis of what they do to wipe out the fascist scourge. That is the only ground upon which the forces in Yugoslavia have a right to be judged by the outside world. And that is the basis upon which the Yugoslav people, as well as the peoples of all occupied Europe, judge the outside world.

Budenz Will Train Thirty New Reporters

Thirty volunteer reporters from the trade union factories, shops, offices and neighborhood centers of New York are starting a five weeks' course of practical newspaper training at the Daily Worker plant on Thursday evening, Jan. 7.

Their teacher, Louis F. Budenz, managing editor of the Daily Worker, is enthusiastic over the prospect ahead.

Budenz, a veteran editor and reporter, has turned many workers into labor journalists in the last 25 years. But never, he said, has he tackled a training job with such zest.

"We are going to give these volunteers the most practical training," said Budenz at his office yesterday afternoon.

"We will give them their training in our offices, where they will smell printers' ink, see reporters, rewrite men and copy desk men at work. They will be trained in an atmosphere of deadlines, where they will learn the value of time, the value of minutes and seconds."

Emphasis will be placed on telephone reporting, though the art of news writing will not be ignored. The volunteers will be taught the "who, where, what, why and when" of a story. They will be taught to get the key facts of a story, get them quickly and phone them in with a minimum of words.

"A good Daily Worker story is a story that helps America win the war," said Budenz. "Our volunteers will send us dramatic and accurate stories of the battle for war production, the fight against the appeasers, the stories of heroes back from the front."

The Daily Worker, said the veteran editor, will be a richer people's paper than ever with the help of these trained volunteers from every part of the city.

Volunteers have been recruited by the Daily Worker Advisory Council, of which Alexander Trachtenberg is president. There is still an opportunity for a few more people to enroll by writing to the Council office on the fifth floor of the Daily Worker building. Classes will be interrupted on the Thursday night that the Council meets, when the students will meet with it. Five actual classes will be held.

Letters From Our Readers

Hoover's Phony Peace Scheme

New York, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Just a few lines in a hurry. I read your editorial on "Hoover's Conditional Peace" in the Daily Worker of Friday, Dec. 18. I fully agree with you, but I think it missed one important point.

He (Hoover) proposes to re-establish at once the old commercial treaties with the Axis countries. I look forward to seeing an analysis on this aspect of Hoover's phony peace scheme.

C. L. E.

Doesn't Like Our Radio Program Listings

New York, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Just turned the radio dial and got the finish of the "Thanks to Russia" program over WOR. Naturally, I felt badly to miss such a fine program of stars—just because The Worker didn't mention it in the radio column.

Furthermore, the new headings under radio are more of a hindrance than a help, because folks are accustomed to use the time of day as a guide. That's all. I now have to go out and finish filling my collection can for Russian War Relief.

H. R.

Editor's Note:—Caught you napping, "H. R." The feature page announced the "Thanks to Russia" program prominently in the Dec. 20 issue of The Worker.

Urges More Letter Writing Campaigns

Flushing, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Your action columns are wonderful. They are clear, direct and a call to action. Such precise instructions are essential today in order to quickly mobilize our comrades and the people.

I refer to "What you can do vs. profiteering" in the Saturday Daily Worker and "Johnson film slammed" in the same issue.

I urge you to feature such items daily or every two days. Too often, our comrades talk a good spiel but do not implement it with action. If we can't start a letter writing campaign, who will?

J. M.

Science on Parade Typhus in North Africa

When the American troops invaded North Africa, they entered an area infested with diseases representing a considerable threat to the native population and even more so to foreigners. Typhus exists (as epidemics now) in the Moroccan as well as in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, etc. A considerable proportion of the population exists as a permanent reservoir from which the disease is spread by rat fleas to rats and back to man again by the flea, or is spread to man directly by lice. In fact the discovery of man-to-louse-to-man transmission of typhus was first made by Charles Nicolle working at the Pasteur Institute in Tunis. The two major sanitary precautions which American troops must take with respect to typhus in North Africa are systematic and frequent delousing of their persons, and avoidance if possible of the districts harboring the rat reservoirs.

Unions Ask British 'Daily' Paper Boosted

By Ivor Montagu

(Special to the Daily Worker)

LONDON, Dec. 23.—The executive committee of the National Union of Railwaymen as well as the lithographers, architects and cinema technicians are among the trade union bodies requesting a larger supply of paper for the Daily Worker.

The paper now has 550,000 daily orders but is restricted by the paper shortage to a circulation of 90,000.

Daily Worker

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